THE NO.1 INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

£1.80
DECEMBER
1994

WORLD SOCCER

SPAIN PTAS. 630.00
HOLLAND DFL. 9.25
DENMARK DKR. 41.00
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WHERE NEXT FOR BERGKAMP?

MIKE WALKER

'MY PROBLEMS AT EVERTON'

SPANISH LEAGUE SQUADS 1994-95

EXCLUSIVE!

BRAZIL

THE 'KEY' TO THEIR WORLD CUP VICTORY

Latest international results, line-ups and tables

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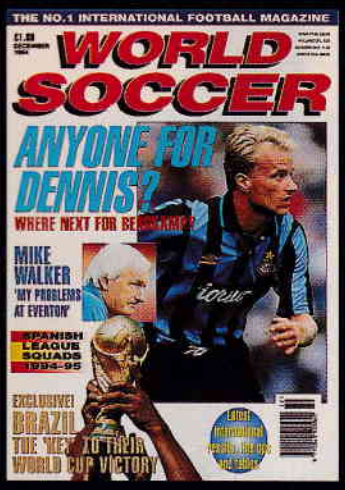
Redondo's Real mix-up: Fernando Redondo made an inauspicious League debut for Real Madrid last month. The young Argentine midfielder was one of four foreign players fielded against Compostela – regulations permit the fielding of no more than three. Not surprisingly, Barcelona have been leading calls for Real to be punished.



DECEMBER 1994
VOL.35 NO.3

WORLD SOCCER King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS

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ipcmagazines
'A commitment to excellence'
Distributed by Marketforce
ABC Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE
01622 778778

SUBSCRIPTION RATES/INFORMATION (12 months) UK: £22. Europe/Eire (inc. VAT): £28 (airmail). Rest of World (surface): £26. Airmail Zone A (Middle East, West Indies & Africa): £34/$55. Zone B (Americas): £34/Ca $65/US $55. Zone C (Australia & Far East): £35/$78.
Credit card orders — UK: 0622-721-555.
General enquiries & overseas orders: 0444-445555.
Renewals: 01622 778777.

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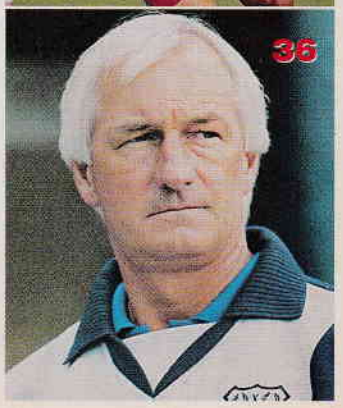


Bayern wait for Bergkamp

BAYERN MUNICH are prepared to wait for a decision by Internazionale on their bid to buy Dennis Bergkamp – but not for too long.

The German champions are growing increasingly desperate to strengthen their attack in time for a new man to be eligible to play in the latter stages of the Champions Cup next spring. The entire club, from president-elect Franz Beckenbauer down, are confident they will accompany Paris Saint-Germain from Group B of the Champions League. But everyone in Munich also recognises a potentially fatal lack of fire power.

Bayern made no secret of the serious nature of their interest in Bergkamp *(right)* **when a top-level delegation flew to Italy for talks with Inter president Ernesto Pellegrini. Bayern's negotiators were president-elect Franz Beckenbauer, vice-president Karl-Heinz Rummenigge – himself a former Bayern and Inter player – and general manager Uli Hoeness.**

Bayern spokesman Markus Hoerwick said: "There have been negotiations with Pellegrini to see if such a transfer can take place but there is so far no result and I don't know when our managers will return to Milan."

Struggling Inter – already eliminated by Aston Villa from the defence of the UEFA Cup they won last season – have denied that the 25-year-old Dutchman is for sale but they need an influx of new cash to fill the gap left by early European elimination and to fund team rebuilding for next season.

Bayern are already guaranteed up to £4million for their participation this autumn in the Champions League and have made no secret of their desire to strengthen their attack. Frenchman Jean-Pierre Papin has hardly been fit because of knee trouble and did not endear himself to his team-mates with an outspoken attack on the general state of team spirit and morale in the dressing room *(see report, page 16)***.**

Clearly, foreigner restrictions in Europe and Germany mean Papin would come under immediate threat should Bayern clinch Bergkamp's signature.

Inter bought Bergkamp from Ajax Amsterdam last year in a joint £8million deal together with midfielder Wim Jonk. But Bergkamp has come under increasing criticism for his failure to provide the chanelled aggression demanded of attacking players in Italy as well as for a failure to mix off the field which has reportedly upset team-mates and coaching staff.

Few Dutchmen go to play in Germany but Bayern have strong links with Inter developed in previous transfer business such as the sales to Italy of Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, Andy Brehme and Lothar Matthaus, as well as the return of Matthaus last year. Bergkamp's move – if it goes through – would certainly eclipse the German purchase record of £3.5million which Borussia Dortmund paid Lazio in 1993 for Karlheinz Riedle.

Ton up . . . Hri Stoichkov cele his 100th goal for Barcelona

A tale of two cities

Milan and Barcelona continue – for contrasting reasons – to dominate the European club competition scene. Keir Radnedge reports

BARCELONA are riding the crest of a wave after beating Manchester United 4-0 in the teams' Group A clash in Spain.

Milan, however, have been teetering on the brink of crisis and had to thank an unexpected source for breathing life back into their season.

Right-back Christian Panucci scored two second-half goals in seven minutes to secure a 2-1 victory against AEK Athens on the fourth matchday of the UEFA Champions League. Success meant everything to Milan, who had slumped to 11th in the Italian top division as well as being deducted two points and being banned from their own Stadio Meazza, for a piece of hooligan nonsense.

Milan's prospects of finishing in the top two of Group D, thus securing a place in the quarter-finals next March, remain wide open with a 'home' match against group leaders Ajax Amsterdam and a visit to Salzburg ahead of them. Ruud Gullit, who missed the win against AEK through injury, hopes to be fit to face Ajax – to prove to Dutch fans that he has not lost all his old magic.

Ajax themselves struggled at home to Salzburg and snatched a draw only thanks to a late goal from Finnish striker Jari Litmanen. Their newest youth discovery, 18-year-old Patrick Kluivert, found the Austrian defenders rather more resilient than the Dutchmen he faces in league matches week by week.

Group A, of course, remains delicately poised after Barcelona's 4-0 despatch of Manchester United. Dutch defender Ronald Koeman forecast such a margin of victory after the earlier 2-2 draw in Old Trafford.

Bulgarian World Cup star Hristo Stoichkov, seeking his 100th goal for Barcelona, scored twice and, while United fretted over the foreign player restrictions which cost them the absence of Danish goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, they might have been relieved that Barcelona – similarly – had to forego the creative services of Romania's Gheorghe Hagi.

It was United's biggest defeat in Europe since they lost to FC Porto by the same score in the Cup-winners Cup in October 1977. At least they will be strengthened for the visit to Sweden by the return of Frenchman Eric Cantona. He has now completed a four-match suspension.

Gothenburg followed up their retention of the Swedish league title by winning 1-0 away to Galatasaray in Turkey and taking over the group leadership. United's quarter-final prospects surely rest on their visit to Gothenburg on November 23.

No such doubts or uncertainties at the top of Group B where Paris Saint-Germain booked their place in the last eight with a 1-0 home win over Dynamo Kiev thanks to a 68th-minute header from Liberian striker George Weah. That goal was enough to preserve PSG's 100 per cent record in the Champions League. They are the only team to have won all four of their matches.

Bayern Munich look likely to join them in the last eight despite being held to a 2-2 draw at home by Spartak Moscow, the joint bottom team in the group. Bayern coach Giovanni Trapattoni gambled on the inclusion of Sammy Osei Kuffour, an 18-year-old defender from Ghana, who celebrated only his second senior appearance with a vital goal.

Benfica of Portugal and Hajduk Split from Croatia appear favourites to qualify from Group C after the latest matches in this draw specialists' group ended all-square. Benfica overcame the absence through injury of Argentinian striker Claudio Caniggia to force a 1-1 draw away to Steaua Bucharest. As for Hajduk, the tightest defence in the Champions League – one goal conceded in four games – gave nothing away in a goalless draw against Anderlecht in Brussels.

The Belgians, ravaged by injury, have long since given up hope of reaching the quarter-finals. Their own Croatian-born striker, Josip Weber, did pop the ball into the net once against Hajduk but the score was disallowed for offside.

Now Benfica and Hajduk need only draw when they meet in Lisbon on November 23 to secure quarter-final places for both of them and with one round of matches still to go.

In the Cup-winners Cup, the smart money must be on another English success now that defending title-holders Arsenal and compatriots Chelsea have both qualified for the quarter-finals next March. Not that either club found it easy. Arsenal gained a place in the quarter-finals despite being held 2-2 at home by the Danish club Brondby. Fortunately, Arsenal had won the first leg 2-1 in Denmark and advanced on a 4-3 aggregate, but only after Brondby were denied an appeal for a penalty in injury time.

Chelsea, seeking to stop FK Austria becoming the first Austrian club to beat an English side in European competition, advanced on the away goals rule after Scottish striker John Spencer capped one of the most spectacular solo runs of the year with the deciding goal in the 1-1 draw in Vienna. The teams had played out a goalless draw in London two weeks earlier.

With two defenders racing to catch him, Spencer ran 80 yards from one end of the pitch to the other after the Austrians had a shot from a corner blocked a massed wall of Chelsea defenders.

The successes of the two London clubs were the first bright moments in a sad week for English clubs. Newcastle and Aston Villa were knocked out of the UEFA Cup two days earlier.

In contrast, Spain's five teams achieved a 100 per cent success rate in Europe, finished off by league leaders Zaragoza's 2-1 victory over Czech team Tatran Presov. Argentinian Juan Eduardo Esnaider and Oscar Luis Celada scored for Zaragoza, who cruised through 6-1 on aggregate. The game was played in Valencia because Zaragoza were completing a two-game home stadium ban imposed by UEFA for crowd trouble.

In addition to Barcelona's victory in the Champions League, Spanish clubs Real Madrid, Athletic de Bilbao and Deportivo de La Coruna also won to advance to the third round of the UEFA Cup.

In the Cup-winners Cup, Sampdoria kept Italy's flag flying, despite losing 3-2 away to Grasshopper of Zurich. The Genoa-based team had won the first leg comfortably and progressed on a 5-3 aggregate. It was the only defeat for an Italian club in the latest European action. Lazio, Napoli, Juventus and Parma all won and advanced in the UEFA Cup with Milan, of course, defeating AEK Athens in the Champions League.

Juventus striker Fabrizio Ravanelli is on course to break the all-time record for goals in a European competition in a single season. Ravanelli has eight from four games in this season's UEFA Cup, six short of the record.

Sympathy goes to Trelleborgs of Sweden, who almost pulled off another shock in the UEFA Cup. The part-timers, who knocked out mega-bucks Blackburn in the last round, held Lazio goalless until four and a half minutes into injury time in Rome, when Alen Boksic scored with virtually the last kick of the match.

The outstanding individual performance in the Cup-winners Cup came from Swede Henrik Larsson. He scored a brilliant hat-trick as his Dutch club, Feyenoord of Rotterdam, upset Werder Bremen in front of their own German fans.

Former European champions FC Porto lost 2-0 to Ferencvaros in Hungary but were never in danger of being knocked out, cushioned by a huge 6-0 first leg advantage. They were reduced to 10 men after Fernando Bandeirinha was sent off in the 52nd minute.

Two goals from 22-year-old winger Sabri Lamouchi carried French club Auxerre into the quarter-finals with a 2-0 win and 4-2 aggregate victory over Besiktas of Turkey while Club Brugge sneaked into the quarter-finals when they held out for a 0-0 draw in Athens against Panathinaikos to qualify by virtue of their 1-0 home-leg win.

- DUTCH MIDFIELDER Michel Kreek celebrated his move from Ajax to Padova in Italy with a goal on his Serie A debut against Brescia.
- JURGEN GELSDORF has handed in his notice as coach of struggling German Bundesliga club VfL Bochum, who have picked up just five points from 12 games this season.
- THE FINAL of the African Champions Cup will be between Tunisia's Esperance and Egypt's Zamalek. Esperance drew 2-2 in the second leg of their semi-final with Algeria's MC Oran, to win 5-3 on aggregate; Zamalek lost their second leg 1-0 to Zambia's Nkana Red Devils, but went through 2-1 on aggregate.
- UEFA have announced that Azerbaijan can play their home European Championship qualifiers in Turkey.
- BOCA JUNIORS and Independiente played out a 1-1 draw in the first leg of the all-Argentinian South American Supercup Final.

Commentary

Keir Radnedge

Who's foreign now?

FOR YEARS AND YEARS continental Europe complained that the English clubs they met in European competition cheated on them by using more foreigners than they were allowed in their own domestic competitions.

Those 'foreigners', of course, were Scottish, Welsh and Irish. Their status as British citizens meant they could play without let or hindrance in English football. Then came pressure from the European Community to scrap all foreign player restrictions and UEFA negotiated the present arrangement in its club competitions of three foreigners plus two assimilated players. Of course, this rule upset English clubs who suddenly found their Scots, Welsh and Irish players to be real foreigners in Europe.

UEFA's argument with the EC – supported by all its federations and associations – was that allowing free movement of football labour would undermine the national interests which are central to the survival and development of the game.

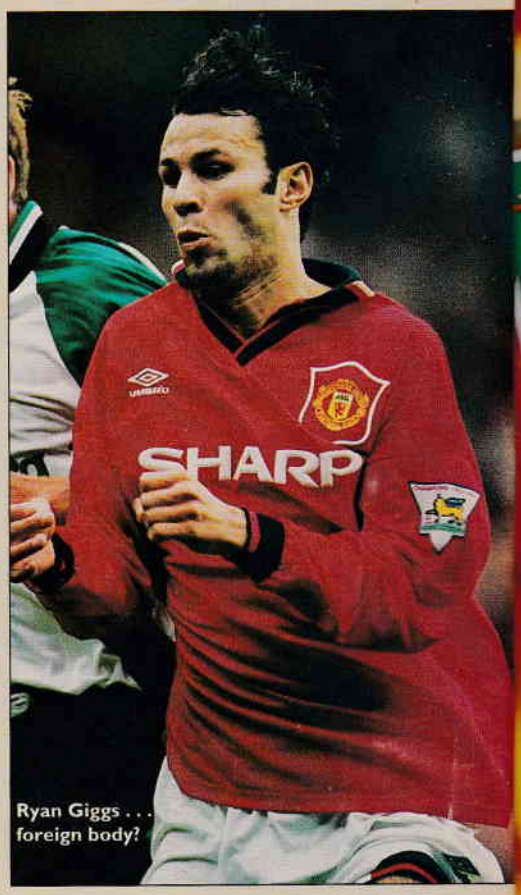
You may accept that argument, you may not. But suddenly, the Football Association has woken up to its significance. Thus it is considering following Europe and introducing stringent new regulations to reclassify Scots, Welsh and Irish players as foreigners in domestic competition.

Manchester United, Aston Villa and Liverpool would probably be the most inconvenienced. United in particular. Right back to the days of the original Busby Babes in the 1950s they have drawn heavily on a determined investment in Irish youth talent.

Manager Alex Ferguson says: "It would be a disaster for clubs like ours who have worked tremendously hard to develop top players from Scotland, Wales and Ireland. It would effectively close the door to some great talents who do not play the standard of football that we enjoy in England. These lads dream of eventually making it at a top English club. Where would the game have been without the likes of George Best, Denis Law, Danny Blanchflower and Ryan Giggs?"

Good question. Here's another one: Would England have been missing from the World Cup finals tournaments of 1974, 1978 and 1994 – three of the last six – if the domestic game had been less cluttered with Scottish, Welsh and Irish players?

Your comments, please, to our letters supremo, Trevor Brooking.



Ryan Giggs . . . foreign body?

Putting the Slavs back on the map

YUGOSLAVIA ARE BACK among us again. FIFA's executive committee members, meeting in New York – they just can't keep away from the United States, can they? – have decided that the rump state comprising Serbia and Montenegro should be readmitted gradually into world competition.

This means, presumably, that Yugoslavia will not be considered for a latecomers place in the qualifying round of the European Championship. All in the name of democracy, diplomacy, cautionary good sense, etc. But is it fair?

Remember that Yugoslavia were bounced out of the European Championship at high speed in the spring of 1992 when the United Nations turned the sanctions screw. But now the United Nations has set the example once more by putting Yugoslavia on a 100-day probation.

Football should do the same and consider thrusting them back into the European Championship. After all, Group three (Switzerland, Sweden, Hungary, Iceland, Turkey) has one fewer team than the other groups. The fixture 'space' exists.

Remember, too, that one of the greatest weapons in bringing down apartheid in South Africa was sport. Just as you can't keep politics out of sport, sometimes it can be useful to put sport into politics.

Yugoslavia . . . back in contention.

Bad day for Europe, even worse for Oceania

UEFA PRESIDENT Lennart Johansson emerged with a smile from the New York conclave to elect the new World Cup format. But the reaction from back in his European constituency has been a scowl. There were eight new places open in the 1998 World Cup finals and Europe will benefit from just two, the same as Africa.

Sounds like a poor deal to me. But even worse-off, in my opinion, are Oceania.

Football people down in the southern hemisphere had high hopes that, at long last, they would get a guaranteed place of their own in the World Cup finals.

No such luck. Too few votes at their disposal, you see. No-one goes to court them when it comes to the big debates. So the Oceania winners will have to play off against an Asian team for a place in France.

FIFA president Joao Havelange and general secretary Sepp Blatter say that Oceania is too small and weak, that a guaranteed place would be dominated, four-year-in and four-year-out by Australia (conveniently forgetting that New Zealand qualified in 1982). But I don't remember that argument being used to hold back CONCACAF in the days when Mexico were the only show in town in North and Central America.

I thought I understood that the encouragement of weak, poor-relation soccer nations was a cornerstone of FIFA's latter-day philosophy. After all, isn't that why the United States got the 1994 World Cup finals?

Lest we forget . . . New Zealand v Brazil in the 1982 Word Cup finals.

Europe's dream team

THE RECENT TALK-IN among top European and European-based coaches in Sweden produced a string of ideas for improving the game – from reducing teams to 10-a-side to the sin ban. But just to add a lighter touch to proceedings, UEFA's coaching supremo Andy Roxburgh polled the managers present on their ideal 'Europe XI' from the World Cup finals in the United States.

The answer was as follows:

Preud'homme (Belgium) – Ferrer (Spain), Bratseth (Norway), Baresi (Italy), Maldini (Italy) – Brolin (Sweden), Hagi (Romania), Stoichkov (Bulgaria) – Bergkamp (Holland), Klinsmann (Germany), R Baggio (Italy). Subs: Ravelli (Sweden), Petrescu (Romania), Matthaus (Germany), Schwarz (Sweden), K Andersson (Sweden).

Jurgen Klinsmann . . . dream player.

Doping: now Toure owns up

THE DOPING STORY is going to run and run. Within days of our last edition going on sale, a string of television and radio programmes picked up the theme both at home and abroad and further revelations came dribbling out. Clearest was provided by Jose Toure, a fine forward who played with distinction for Nantes and France in the 1980s until injury and personal problems took him out of the action.

Toure says he was given a drugs injection before a 1983 Champions Cup first round tie between Nantes and Rapid Vienna.

He says: "I'm telling this now because of Diego Maradona. I want people to understand that the whole environment is doped. The player is caught up in a situation beyond his control. But when Maradona's doctor prepares him a drugs cocktail then it's Maradona who gets the blame."

Toure says he and a South American teammate both received drug injections before the match which Nantes won 3-1 (though they went out 4-3 on aggregate).

He says: "I had a high temperature at the time and the injection was given to help me get through the match. In fact, after the game I had to go out running in the middle of the night to calm down."

(Looking down the Nantes line-up, the only South American I can see was the Argentine midfielder Ramon Muller. Toure, himself, refused to name the 'South American'concerned).

FIFA missing the point

I AM ALL IN FAVOUR of three points for a win. I believe it made a significant difference to the direction of the English game and did so, too, in the recent World Cup. But . . .

I do NOT believe it's up to FIFA to order every league – professional, part-time, amateur, youth, college and school – to apply it as their own.

FIFA must tread a careful line between being governing body and enabling authority. People must be encouraged to play the game unfettered by petty rules, regulations and restrictions.

This, to me, is bureaucracy gone mad.

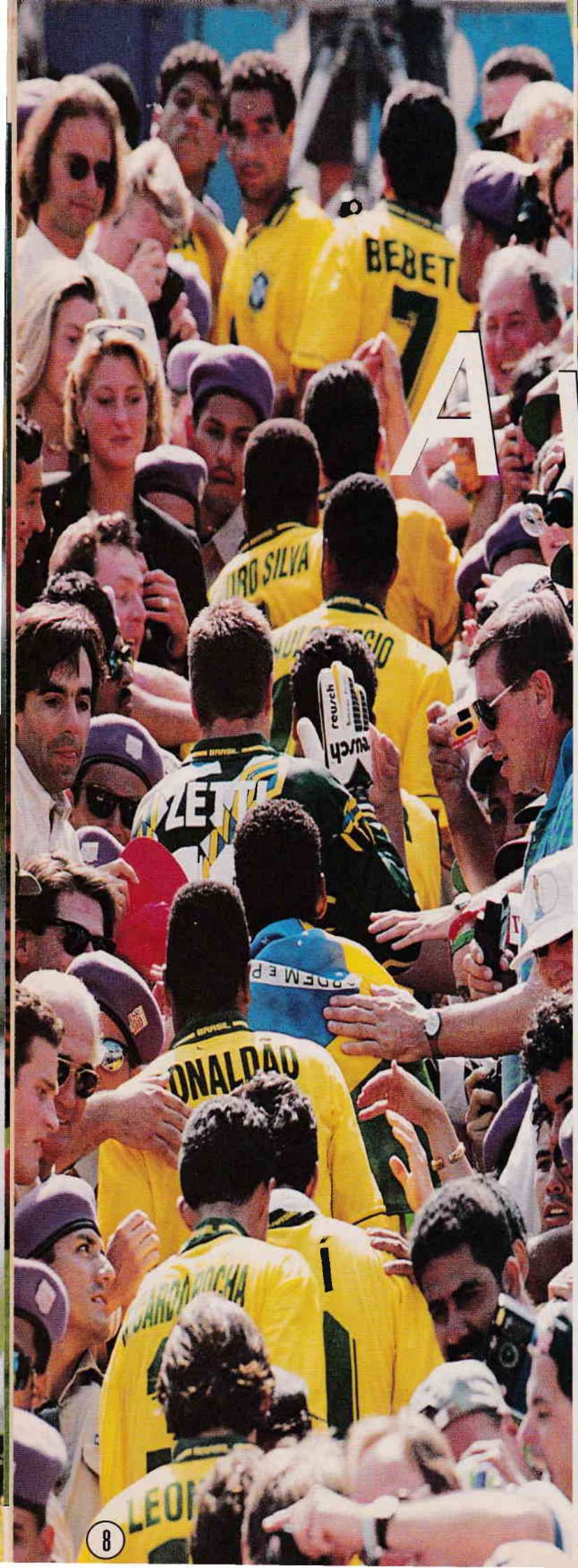
While on the subject, however, I do believe in sensible standardisation and on this score UEFA needs to put its competitive house in order.

We have three points for a win in the European Championship, but two points in the Champions League. We have goal difference to split teams level on points in the European Championship but mutual goal aggregate in the Champions League. No wonder tables in newspapers and magazines and on television are almost always wrong.

One authority, one system. The present confusion does UEFA no favours. Still, I'm sure they will soon get that right . . .

What's in a name

WE HAVE RECEIVED a number of abusive letters about the European football nation known officially and formally as the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In all cases these letters came from Greek readers upset about the name of that particular new member state of the world game. Please note: we don't pick their names, we just write about their football.



A winning

THREE MONTHS after the World Cup Final an elite group of players and officials met in the central conference chamber at FIFA House in Zurich to exchange opinions on the World Cup past and future . . . Editor KEIR RADNEDGE was there for WORLD SOCCER

THE HOTEL KEY WHICH UNLOCKED THE WORLD CUP FOR BRAZIL

QUESTION: What was the secret ingredient which made the crucial difference between Brazil and all the other teams at the 1994 World Cup finals?

PARREIRA: How a coach works during a World Cup varies from country to country. Approach is everything. For example, I didn't have to teach our players how to play football but I did have to help them play as a unit – which is very difficult for Brazilian players because they are all such individuals. My prime concern was for my players to concentrate on playing without the ball. In the past few World Cups we had been good only when we were on the ball.

As far as tactics went, we didn't do anything different. We played with a flat back four, zone marking, the usual Brazilian way. But off the field we didn't make the same mistakes as in previous World Cups when our players were not happy in one another's company.

We took three weeks of relaxation before we got down to serious physical work. Then we played only three friendly matches and all in the week leading up to the start of the World Cup.

That is why we were the fittest team at the start of the World Cup and that is why we were the fittest team and still best able to sustain our effort at the end of the World Cup.

We trained a lot – 15 days morning and afternoon. We worked on set pieces, corners, free kicks. We prepared every detail. For example, one year before the World Cup we had all our hotels booked and ready. I travelled to the United States four times to look at training camps and made sure I chose the best.

Then, we used a private, chartered plane for all our air travel. And we always made sure that we had a bus to come and go right from the door of the plane so the players never had to worry about airport facilities or being smothered by fans.

Then, for the hotels, we always sent guys ahead to get the room keys for everyone else. So, five minutes after we arrived, everyone was in their rooms. No waiting around.

These may sound like little things but they all add up and give the players confidence. If they see that everything around them is being done well then they respond to that. It's a proven fact.

Zero mistakes and high performance was our aim from the beginning and everything was geared to achieve that. For example, we didn't have any newspapers inside our camp. I didn't want that distraction. Right through the World Cup: no newspapers, no magazines.

No other people, either. It was a big problem in Italy in 1990, with girls, agents and wives around the team. Thanks to the understanding of the players this time, we cut all that out. No girlfriends or wives came into the camp at any time during the 60 days our World Cup work lasted. Once a week when we were in Brazil before the finals, the players went out for lunch or dinner to spend time with their familieis. But very few wives or families came to the US.

DUNGA: I have played under many different coaches but Carlos Alberto was exceptional. He gave us the freedom to discuss things and speak

our mind but he was always in charge. He wasn't afraid to consult us and act on what we told him. For example, he asked us about our work in Europe and this led to quite a lot of change in our training schedules in the early stages.

He gave us what you might call a 'winning mentality'. We didn't win the World Cup simply on technical quality. We had to learn how to do things properly as a team. It takes just as long to do things badly as it takes to do them well. But if you do them badly then you have to do them all over again. Learning that was very important to our mental preparation.

All winners are normal people . . . but with a certain discipline when we try to improve ourselves. From federation president to storekeeper, we all developed exactly the same attitude and determination to succeed.

PARREIRA: I learned a great deal not from going to previous World Cups as manager of Kuwait in 1982 or the United Arab Emirates in 1990.

My 'learning' began in 1970 when I was assistant coach and physical training instructor to perhaps the greatest of Brazilian teams. That's where I saw what was necessary to be a World Cup winner. More important, both in 1970 and then in 1974, I learned what mistakes NOT to make.

With Kuwait and the UAE what helped me most was not so much playing at the World Cup finals – their real success had been in qualifying – but working with them helped me keep up to date with international football.

There's no fun in being Brazil's national coach because the responsibility is so vast. There was pressure all the way, partly because it was such a long time – 24 years – since Brazil last won the World Cup. Maybe at the next World Cup finals the pressure will not be the same again.

Either way, I decided I was not interested in finding out. Three years in that job is more than enough for any normal human being!

'No girlfriends or wives came into the camp at any time during the 60 days our World Cup work lasted . . . I didn't want that distraction' CARLOS ALBERTO PARREIRA

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION: Was it fair to come down so hard on Mauro Tassotti of Italy when the referee himself did not properly see the incident with Spain's Luis Enrique in the quarter-finals?

PUHL: I was that referee and my situation was very difficult. I was in the middle of the pitch, approaching the Italian penalty area when the two players clashed. I didn't see the full extent of the violence. Certainly I appreciated that Luis Enrique had committed the original foul and that Tassotti retaliated. After that it was up to the disciplinary committee to take the action it thought right. I understand the committee asked for all television camera angles, even some not have seen on television, before they reached their verdict on Tassotti.

QUESTION: Your favourite suggestions for the future?

PARREIRA: I am in favour of football introducing the sin bin, like in ice hockey. You can't run a World Cup in which some of the top-level players are barred half the time because of a yellow card.

ROXBURGH: I like the idea of a time-out for coaches to sort out teams during a match. Also, why don't we have timekeepers off the pitch so we can play real time. Then maybe we should allow goalkeepers to move at penalty kicks – just so long as the penalty taker is allowed to stop and dummy. Incidentally, I'm against the sin bin. It doesn't work because a team which has lost a player for, say, 10 minutes, just retreats and plays possession football. The game dies. In the northern European climate you'd risk players dying of frostbite! Also, I'm against a sin bin becuase it would upset the tempo of a game.

PLATINI: Some people talk about reducing teams from 11 players to 10 players each. I'm not sure. Instead, how about increasing the size of the pitch . . . ?

QUESTION: How do you prefer to see matches settled – with penalty shoot-outs or some other solution?

DAHLIN: The penalty shoot-out isn't perfect but it's the best we have. I wouldn't like sudden death. That would just encourage even more negative play because teams would be frightened of conceding the one goal whereas in 'normal' extra time a team which goes behind always has a chance of equalising and winning.

DUNGA: It's hard to know what to do but we must find something else from penalty shoot-outs. Perhaps teams should play with a player fewer in extra time.

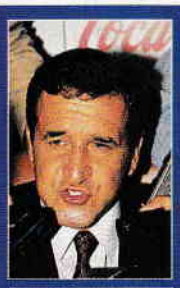
PARREIRA: I don't like penalty shoot-outs but I think it's the only practical solution. At the end of a World Cup you can't ask the players to play the whole match again. Extra time is quite enough!

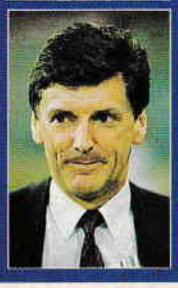
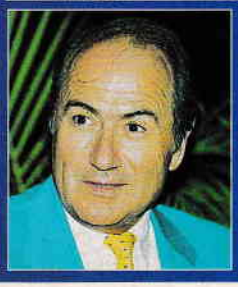
QUESTION: The fixture scheduling at the 1994 World Cup left a lot to be desired, didn't it?

PARREIRA: Yes it did. Not only the short time of the competition – four weeks is really not enough – but the times of day in which some teams had to play like the Irish, Belgian and Dutch in the heat and humidity in Orlando. Then the travelling was too much – and I say that even though Brazil had an easier time than most other teams. Italy had a tough time, particularly having to fly from New York right across to Los Angeles for the Final. The Italians don't like to travel straight after a game. They prefer to wind down by staying in the same quarters overnight. That certainly cost them a day in preparation and relaxation for the Final.

DAHLIN: Heat was a problem but it was the same for everyone else. A big problem for us was having only two days' rest between our quarter-final against Romania and our semi-final against Brazil.

THE CAST LIST
(clockwise from top left)
Carlos Alberto Parreira (Brazil's World Cup-winning coach)
Martin Dahlin (Sweden and Borussia Monchengladbach)
Dunga (Brazil's World Cup-winning captain)
Sandor Puhl (1994 World Cup Final referee)
Sepp Blatter (FIFA general secretary)
Andy Roxburgh (UEFA coaching director)
Paolo Casarin *(not pictured)* (FIFA's outgoing referees adviser)
Michel Platini *(not pictured)* (joint president of the French 1998 World Cup organising committee)



WHY THE GAME HAD TO CHANGE

BLATTER: Football is more than a game. It's become a means to social and cultural education. That's why it's important we discuss the direction our game will take in the next years. Look at the value of football worldwide. Nothing contributes more heavily to tourism than football. Society should be ready to subsidise football because the game occupies young people. The 1994 World Cup produced a turnover of $4billion with 32 billion television viewers. I mean no disrespect to other sports by saying that even the Olympic Games cannot compare. The World Cup was a fabulous success. It typified everything about our game – which should bring people pleasure not tragedy.

CASARIN: I am sure one of the reasons for the success was the work put in by FIFA in improving standards of refereeing. The referee, traditionally, had been a sort of monument, the centre of power on the pitch. Everything devolved around him. But after the negative experiences of refereeing at the 1990 World Cup we decided to change attitudes and put the referee at the service of the game rather than above it.

It was an ambitious project. We had to change ideas in people's heads and, of course, we also had to change some of the people.

The first thing was to bring down the age of referees. Then we had to bring in 'proper' linesmen – because it is a specialised job. We needed a new mentality. That is why we changed the colours of the referee's kit. It almost didn't matter what they changed to – yellow, red or pink. It was a signal that the role of the referee was changing. He was to be a positive influence in the game, not a negative one.

You know, if we had gone on with the reduction in scoring rates I think we might have had just 50 goals in the entire 1994 World Cup finals! It was difficult to draw up a method by which to redevelop such a subtle game as football. But I think you can judge the result from the statistics. In 1994 we had around 60 minutes of 'real' play per match. That is around 50 per cent more active football than in 1990?

Obviously, a new approach to offside was vital to this strategy because offside was never meant to be a system to block attacking play. Violent play also had to be discouraged.

We cannot have two classes of offence: a free kick for a foul in midfield but nothing for the same action in the penalty box. Every referee around the world must be firm. If he would give a direct free kick in midfield then, for the same offence, he must give a penalty if it occurs in the penalty box. Nothing else is acceptable. Referees in their domestic leagues must know this and apply it.

I must say a big Thank You to the players. It Italy we averaged 49 fouls per game, in the United States it was 29. From the point of view of football that was a great result.

PUHL: I believe one of the most important factors at the World Cup was that, by and large, the players understood FIFA's changes. This was not easy for them and it has been extra difficult, I know, for players and referees going back to their own countries with these new attitudes and interpretations.

PARREIRA: People were running away from football because of time-wasting and the negative impression of the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy. So FIFA had to work very hard so people couldonce again enjoy football as they did years ago. In my opinion, there were four key factors:

One. Three points for a win meant a big improvement in the standard of play because it changed people's attitdes.

Two. Having all 22 players available to play on the bench was a big help for coaches because one of the big headaches of our job at the World Cup is that everyone wants to play. Of course! Now all the players are motivated whereas in the past the coach had the extra complication of picking five nominated substitutes and then he also had to reassure and pump up the players who were neither in the team nor on the subs' bench.

Three The ban on the back pass has been the best development in soccer over the past 20 years. I am in favour of anything which allows the game to flow more freely. I didn't think this 10 years ago, but now I believe that maybe it would improve football to reduce teams from 11 players to 10 each. Space is so difficult to find on a football pitch now. At the least I think the idea deserves a discussion.

Four. Letting coaches talk to players from the touchline has been a positive change. It helps coaches try to improve the quality of the game and it means there is no need for a player to pretend he is injured – I'm told this happened! – so a physio could come on and give tactical and technical advice.

Lowering the age of referees was necessary but I think this created a problem at USA '94 because you lost a top echelon of experience. Many of the referees were not as experienced in the big international occasions as they needed to be. But that was just an interim problem. It will not arise again.

Having specialist linesman was also important. But if I have a reservation in this area it is about yellow cards. Banning a player for one game after he has been shown two yellow cards is not satisfatory. One booking may be correct but many times players are booked because the referee wants to show he is being strong, early in a game, and uses any excuse to produce the yellow card. One decision may be correct but one wrong – and the way football is nowadays we cannot afford to lose one player for one game because of a bad decision by a referee.

That's why many of Europe's coaches believe that yellow cards should be scrapped.

Also, to my mind, it is unfair that a player should be punished in another game for an infringement he has committed in this game here and now. Either the punishment should be immediate – some of my colleagues like the idea of an ice-hockey style sin bin – or we should scrap yellow cards altogether. After all, what purpose do they serve? Either referees should give a player a verbal warning or he should show him a red card.

DUNGA: I think it's important that, even though 1994 was judged a great success, FIFA should carry on trying to improve football.

Some players like the rule changes, some don't. In Brazil we used to consider the referee as the Lord of Truth. Now maybe it will be easier for the referee to be a friend to players. Really, the less we see of him the better! Referees need more preparation than they have now before a World Cup. Perhaps four or even five months.

DAHLIN: I agree that most players are satisfied with the new rules – certainly as far as Sweden and Germany are concerned. Even defenders – though it certainly has made them think more about the game and ways to defend.

PARREIRA: I must say that, for Brazil, we never worried about defending. My only concern was to organise our team without the ball. I didn't need to worry about our team when we had the ball! I accept that we were not the best Brazilian team of all time but we had a winning mentality. We had harmony within the squad. A lot of that was to do with the fact that most of our players had a lot of experience from playing in Europe.

DUNGA: I think maybe we had greater individual talent in 1990. But this time we worked hard on the basic points of our collective game. We wanted to create good team spirit and we wanted to be comfortable with the new laws – which, I must say, certainly favoured Brazil!

Also, discipline was very important to us: giving the best of yourself for as long as possible in a game and being able, then, to find a little bit extra. We were very conscious of the need – especially after the sad death of our friend Ayrton Senna – to bring some joy back into the lives of our people through our football.

DAHLIN: Brazil were the best team at the World Cup though in the first round we believed we could beat them in the Silverdome. When we played again in the semi-final we had a lot of players injured. We were criticised for the way we played but, honestly, this

'I'm against the sin bin . . . In the northern European climate you'd risk players dying of frostbite!' ANDY ROXBURGH

PLATINI'S PLANS FOR 1998

QUESTION: How can France, in 1998, improve on USA '94?

PLATINI: First, we can't compare France with the United States. They had more than 50 stadia with up to 80,000 capacities and we don't have a single one. On the other hand, the distances won't be anything like as great between venues. In the United States , because of the time travelling took, I missed some games altogether.

France in 1998 will be more like the Italian World Cup of 1990. Italia '90 was wonderfully well organised. Like them, we want the whole of our country involved for a tournament which will be focused on tourism.

As far as the increase to 32 teams is concerned, we are in favour. But the timing of the finals is a very important issue. We have studied various scheduling ideas and we think we can keep the World Cup to the present four weeks by staging three, sometimes four, matches each day in the first round of group matches.

I think we can also schedule matches rather more evenly than the Americans who had a very short rest time after the first round but let some teams have almost a week in between their matches in the knock-out stages.

We don't need any more stadia, except in one specific instance – the new Grand Stade in the suburbs of Paris which will stage the Final itself and will replace the Parc des Princes as our national stadium.

BY PADDY AGNEW

Has the mighty Milan bandwagon finally groud to a halt? Or is talk of the champions' demise premature?

San sorrow

Heads up . . . Padova's players enjoy their victory against Milan.

THIS TIME, is the crisis for real? Over the last four seasons, reports of the impending demise of AC Milan have proven to be 'greatly exaggerated'. Yet the events of Wednesday October 26, 1994 have once again led to speculation about the impending twilight of the reigning European and Italian champions.

Two events on that day prompted the inevitable suspicion that this time, perhaps, even the mighty Milan bandwagon is about to creak to a painful halt. Firstly, it was the 'Black Wednesday' when Milan suffered their sixth defeat in 15 competitive games this season, when being eliminated from the Italian Cup by city rivals, Internazionale (4-2 on aggregate).

Secondly, and arguably more importantly, it was also the day when a UEFA appeals board confirmed the disciplinary sanctions imposed on Milan in relation to their home Champions League tie against Austria Salzburg. Milan were fined two points and forced to play their next two Champions League games more than 300km away from Milan as a result of the incident in which Salzburg goalkeeper Otto Konrad was hit by a half-full plastic bottle, just after Milan's opening goal in a game which the Italian champions went on to win 3-0.

With the first two months of the season played, Milan find themselves facing unusually uphill battles in both the Italian league and the Champions Cup. League defeats by Cremonese and Padova and the miserable strike rate of only five goals in seven league games have set alarm bells ringing loudly. One point in three Champions League games makes qualification for the quarter-finals anything but a foregone conclusion.

The miserable Milan seasonal start prompts two important questions, one of a judicial nature and the other of purely footballing dimensions. With regard to the Salzburg-Konrad affair, it is hard not to feel some sympathy for Milan.

Head case: Salzburg's Konrad lies prone after being hit by a bottle.

In relation to the appeal presented by Salzburg, UEFA had to rule on two questions. Firstly, was the Salzburg goalkeeper Konrad hit by an object thrown by Milan fans? Secondly, if he was, did the incident affect the outcome of the game?

Both UEFA judgements ruled that, indeed, Konrad had been hit by a bottle seconds after Giovanni Stroppa had opened the scoring for Milan, in the 39th minute. Furthermore, the appeals board felt that, to some extent at least, the incident had indeed affected the outcome of the game, commenting: "Despite the uncertainty about the physical consequences of the bottle thrown [at Konrad], the fact remains that the course of the game was seriously disturbed by the incident."

For what it is worth, and as someone who saw the match in question, we would like to differ. Yes, Konrad was hit. No, the incident did not affect the overall outcome. Milan would have won, and won easily, in any case.

If Konrad was so badly hurt, why did he stay on until immediately after Marco Simone's 59th-minute goal for Milan? How come the Salzburg goalkeeper managed to pull off two brilliant saves early in the second half, the second of which required the sharpest of reflexes as he had to change direction to save a Demetrio Albertini shot that had taken a deflection from a Salzburg defender?

Perhaps Milan's previous record did not help. Fifteen times in the last five years, the club has been sanctioned by UEFA for similar offences by their fans. The appeal ruling spelt out the message, loud and clear: "There cannot be any doubt but that a Milan fan threw the bottle in order to hit a player from the opposing team. That fact alone, regardless of consequences of the bottle throwing, merits a severe sanction."

> *'The real Milan will emerge in mid-November when all my players will be in good condiiton'* FABIO CAPELLO

Milan obviously were not happy, with club vice-president Adriano Galliani calling the ruling "absurd" and with team manager, Ariedo Braida, saying "injustice has been done."

UEFA (and the stupid fan who threw the bottle) might be responsible for Milan's difficult start in the Champions League but the club, and the club alone, is responsible for its poor Italian League and Cup starts. Adriano Galliani had hardly time to climb off the private jet that had flown him to Zurich for the UEFA appeal when he found himself witnessing Milan's Italian Cup elimination by Inter, twice victorious over Milan with two successive 2-1 scorelines.

What has gone wrong? The answer, if you believe Milan coach Fabio Capello, is that the side has been severly handicapped by a spate of injuries to key players and by the fact that seven of the squad started off the season still mentally and physically exhausted from their participation with the Italian team at USA '94.

On the other hand, there is a line of thought which suggests that the lack of genuine fire-power up front, the lack of an old fashioned 'centre forward' provides the explanation for their poor start. In theory, the Milan strike force comprises Montenegrin Dejan Savicevic, Dutchmen Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten, plus Italians Daniele Massaro and Marco Simone. Yet Savicevic is really a midfield schemer, Gullit a free agent, Massaro an attacking midfielder and Van Basten, of course, remains out of contention with his long-term injury. All of which leaves Marco Simone as the only genuine striker (and a diminutive one at that).

Could it be that Milan were just a little too hasty to rid themselves of Romanian Florin Raducioiu (Espanol) and Frenchman Jean-Pierre Papin (Bayern Munich), reportedly to ease

the foreign player quota squeeze in order to welcome back Ruud Gullit? Just at the moment, there are those at Milanello who resent having missed the opportunity just over a year ago of signing Lazio's accomplished central striker, the Croat Alen Boksic.

Before writing Milan off, however, it is worth recalling that coach Capello has said since early August that his side will not be at its best until mid-November. Elimination from the Italian Cup is perceived as no big deal at Milanello where the two overall seasonal targets remain the Champions Cup and the Italian League title.

For the time being, it is too early to say that Milan's league prospects have been irrevocably compromised, while by the time you have finished reading this, the reigning European champions may well have already played their way into the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup.

Those preparing to write the Milan epitaph should pause to consider this recent statement from Fabio Capello: "I'm convinced that the real Milan, the old familiar one, will emerge in mid-November when all my players will be in good physical condition."

Head boys . . . Massaro and Gullit are expected to lead Milan's attack.

Boskov in at Napoli

THE SERB, Vujadin Boskov, is nothing if not an experienced coach.

A former winner with such as Real Madrid, Sampdoria and Feyenoord, Boskov came out of retirement in October to take over Napoli following the dismisal of coach Vincenzo Guerini, just hours after the team had picked up a seemingly useful 1-1 UEFA Cup away draw with Portuguese side Boavista.

Boskov is nothing if not a great talker and he certainly confused the press on his first day of work with his new side by claiming that Napoli were good enough to win the Italian Cup and to qualify for a place in next season's UEFA Cup. When questioned more closely about the side, Boskov candidly admitted that he had not seen Napoli play this season.

Call it 'charisma', call it 'experience', call it what you will, but the Boskov effect seemed to work immediately with the side defeating Bari and Cremonese, both 3-0, in the league and Italian Cup respectively.

Head coach . . . Napoli's new boss Vujadin Boskov.

● PIPPO MARCHIORO became the third Serie A manager to lose his job this season, when he was sacked by bottom-club Reggiana, who have won just one point from eight games.

$acchi: how much?

HOW MUCH is a good national manager worth? £5million pre-tax over four years is the answer, in Italy.

That is the sum which Italian manager Arrigo Sacchi will pocket for the period, August 1, 1992 to June 30, 1996, and it is a figure that was destined to remain known only to those directly concerned, were it not for an as yet unknown Italian Federation official who opted to leak a copy of Sacchi's contract to the Rome sports daily *Corriere Dello Sport.*

The purpose of the leak was doubtless an attempt by a Federation official (or rival) to embarrass president Antonio Matarrese since the contract offered to Sacchi seems sharply at odds with the policy of fiscal restraint which Matarrese preaches daily.

The Federation's office commented to the effect that if Sacchi were to be enticed from club soccer, then a salary in line with the top in Italian club soccer had to be paid. (In reality, Sacchi's salary appears to be worth twice as much as the highest paid in club soccer) Watch this space.

RESULTS

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Parma	8	6	1	1	15	7	19
Lazio	8	5	2	1	16	7	17
Juventus	8	5	2	1	9	4	17
AS Roma	8	4	3	1	13	6	15
Fiorentina	8	4	3	1	17	11	15
Foggia	8	3	4	1	10	6	13
Bari	8	4	1	3	9	8	13
Sampdoria	8	3	3	2	11	4	12
Inter	8	3	3	2	7	4	12
Cagliari	8	3	3	2	8	6	12
Milan	8	3	2	3	5	6	11
Torino	8	3	1	4	8	10	10
Napoli	8	2	3	3	11	15	9
Genoa	8	2	2	4	11	16	8
Cremonese	8	2	0	6	6	12	6
Padova	8	1	2	5	6	19	5
Brescia	8	0	2	6	5	15	2
Reggiana	8	0	1	7	4	15	1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

BARI 0
CAGLIARI 0. **Att:** 15,000.

CREMONESE 1 (A. Pirri 47)
FOGGIA 3 (Biagioni 20, Kolyvanov 37, Sciacca 62). **Att:** 9,000.

FIORENTINA 1 (Batistuta 60)
LAZIO 1 (Bergodi 90). **Att:** 35,000.

GENOA 3 (Skuhravy 23, 82, Onorati 38)
REGGIANA 1 (Futre 46). **Att:** 22,000.

MILAN 1 (Simone 50)
BRESCIA 0. **Att:** 50,000.

NAPOLI 3 (Rincon 53, 84 pen, Agostini 55)
PADOVA 3 (Longhi 66 pen, Maniero 85, 87). **Att:** 28,000.

PARMA 2 (Zola 57, Branca pen 83)
TORINO 0. **Att:** 20,000.

AS ROMA 1 (Balbo 55)
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 55,000.

JUVENTUS 0
INTER 0. **Att:** 48,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

MIDWEEK

ITALIAN CUP — 3RD RND, 1ST LEG

NAPOLI 3
CREMONESE 0

MILAN 1
INTER 2

FOGGIA 3
TORINO 0

PARMA 2
CAGLIARI 0

FIORENTINA 2
SAMPDORIA 1

LAZIO 3
PIACENZA 3

GENOA 2
AS ROMA 0

JUVENTUS 2
REGGIANA 0

WEEKEND

BRESCIA 1 (Gallo 79)
GENOA 2 (Skuhravy 7, Delli Carri 90). **Att:** 12,000.

CAGLIARI 1 (Oliveira 39)
CREMONESE 0. **Att:** 10,000.

FOGGIA 2 (Bresciani 29, 76)
JUVENTUS 0. **Att:** 21,000.

INTER 1 (Pancev 76)
BARI 2 (Guerrero 2, Tovalieri 42). **Att:** 37,000.

LAZIO 5 (Boksic 3, Winter 20, 43, Casiraghi 36, Negro 38)
NAPOLI 1 (Pecchia 33). **Att:** 48,000.

PADOVA 2 (Lalas 23, Gabrieli 60)
MILAN 0. **Att:** 19,500.

REGGIANA 1 (Bresciani 39)
FIORENTINA 1 (Batistuta pen 61). **Att:** 15,000.

SAMPDORIA 3 (Maspero pen 75, 81 pen, Mancini 87)
PARMA 1 (Zola 43). **Att:** 35,000.

TORINO 2 (Rizzitelli 41, Cristallini 78)
AS ROMA 2 (Balbo 8, Fonseca 70 pen). **Att:** 20,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

CREMONESE 1 (Pedroni 80)
JUVENTUS 2 (Vialli 39, Baggio 43). **Att:** 17,000.

FIORENTINA 4 (Di Mauro 31, Rui Costa 52, Carbone 54, Batistuta pen 57)
PADOVA 1 (Balleri 28). **Att:** 32,000.

FOGGIA 0
INTER 0. **Att:** 18,000.

GENOA 1 (Marcolin pen 65)

LAZIO 2 (Negro 78, Signori 88). **Att:** 24,000.

MILAN 0
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 57,000.

NAPOLI 3 (Agostini 43, 75, Carbone pen 90)
BARI 0. **Att:** 34,000.

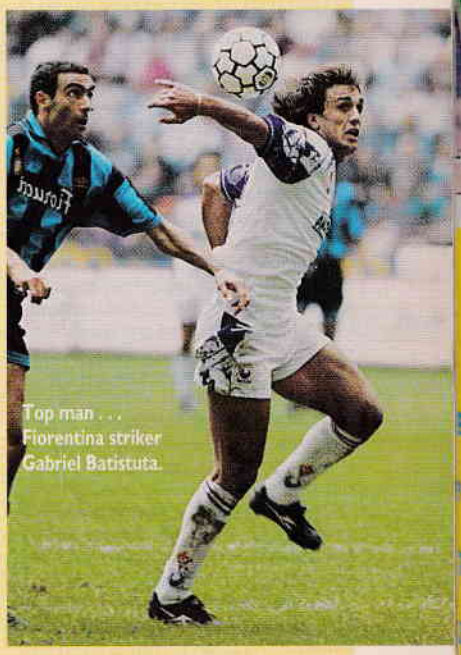
PARMA 2 (Baggio 61, Branca pen 78)
REGGIANA 1 (Futre 14). **Att:** 25,000.

AS ROMA 1 (Balbo 90)
CAGLIARI 1 (Bisoli 58). **Att:** 58,225.

TORINO 2 (Pele 57, 75)
BRESCIA 0. **Att:** 17,243.

LEADING SCORERS

1 ..... Gabriel **BATISTUTA** (Fiorentina) 8
2 ..... Abel **BALBO** (AS Roma) 7
3 ..... Giuseppe **SIGNORI** (Lazio) 6
4 ..... Marco **BRANCA** (Parma) 4



Top man . . . Fiorentina striker Gabriel Batistuta.

BY GRAHAM TURNER

According to Real Zaragoza boss Victor Fernandez *(right)* La Romareda is the stadium to head for if you want to savour good football

Zaragoza *the surprise package*

Nayim . . . in excellent form for Zaragoza.

FOR THE past decade the search for alternatives to the Big Two has drawn a monumental blank. Since Javier Clemente's Athletic Bilbao side won the title in 1984, it's been Barca, Real and, just for a change, Barca again.

The likes of Valencia, Atletico Madrid and Deportivo La Coruna have given us bunches of hunches with no punches. Now those fans anxious for a new mast where they can nail their colours can at least glimpse a bit of fresh, if rough-sawn, woodwork. The question is the following: how good are Zaragoza?

Last season provided some compelling evidence in their favour. After a wretched start they climbed to third place and, despite one of their poorest performances, won the Spanish Cup by beating Celta on penalties, to go into this season's Cup-winners Cup quarter-finals.

Alfonso Solans, the Zaragoza president, has a springboard to fame and fortune — the Pikolin mattresses emblazoned on the club's shirts. His team have beaten both Barcelona and Real in recent months and nobody argued — not even at Nou Camp — when their coach, Victor Fernandez, announced that La Romareda is the stadium to head for if you want to savour good football.

The public in Aragon certainly have developed a taste for it. This season, Zaragoza have sold a club record of 22,000 season tickets and, for the recent game against Real Madrid, not even prices ranging from £20 to £45 could prevent a 43,000 sell-out.

Some locals make comparisons with the side who won the Fairs Cup all of 30 years ago, thanks to a forward line nicknamed — how times have changed — The Magnificent Five. They were Senores Canario, Santos, Marcelino, Villa and Lapetra.

Victor Fernandez is at pains to smother the mood of euphoria which, he feels, could undo a lot of the good work. "That was a golden age at this club," he insists. "This is, at best, a silver age."

Assessing title chances raises obvious doubts about strength in depth and the mental resources needed to cope with life at the top. But there are no doubts about the sheer quality of a very, very good footballing side.

At 34, the daddy-long-legs goalkeeper Andoni Cedrun is still fighting off the challenge of the younger and more impetuous Juanmi, signed from Real Madrid. He is protected by one of the best all-round back-fours in Spain, in the sense that they not only defend but also offer attacking support.

Javier Aguado and Argentinian World Cup defender Fernando Caceres are the centre-pins, leaving Antonio Belsue and "Chucho" Solana to provide quality defending and attacking on the flanks.

But the midfield is the Zaragoza powerhouse and Fernandez has added to his embarrassment of riches by signing Angel de Juana Garcia, alias "Geli", from Santander this summer. He should be pronounced "Helly" whereas the Catalan Geli sold by Barcelona to Atletico Madrid a few weeks ago, is pronounced — honestly — "Jelly".

Helly has a hell of a time competing for a place in midfield, even though another Argentinian international, Dario Franco, still has not recovered peak form after a tendon operation.

Santi Aragon, bought from Real Madrid, is a joy to watch in the pivotal role. Uruguayan international Gustavo Poyet is an explosive mixture of skill and aggression. Former Tottenham midfielder Nayim is having an excellent season. Jose Aurelio Gay is easing his way in after a five-month injury break. And youngsters such as Garcia Sanjuan and Oscar (signed from Gijon this summer) are struggling for opportunities.

"Mighty Mouse" Miguel Pardeza, has not been a regular starter this term even though he is something of an institution at the club. The reason is that Juan Eduardo Esnaider from Argentina, via Real Madrid, and "Packet" Higuera (now in the national team) have formed an explosive attacking partnership.

But maybe the most curious feature of the Zaragoza revival is Fernandez himself.

The fact that he became the youngest manager in the Spanish League, taking over from the Uruguayan Ildo Maneiro during the 1990-91 season at the ripe old age of 30, makes it easy to jump to conclusions about a club stalwart forced by injury into a managerial career. But the boy Fernandez, born in Zaragoza on November 28, 1960, does not fit that bill at all.

The zenith of his playing career was at Sarinena, one of Spain's 340 semi-professional Third Division teams, after a spell with a local side, Stadium Casablanca.

After a run of injuries he was told something akin to "you'll never play it again, Sam" and he promptly sidestepped into coaching.

He sat for his diploma in 1985 and maintains his experience with exams helped him through — referring to an unusual background as a university graduate who used to play truant from lectures to go along to Zaragoza training sessions and watch how the likes of Vujadin Boskov and Leo Beenhakker got on with the job. His coaching career progressed from Casablanca to Zaragoza's youth scheme, the reserve side then known as Aragon, and ultimately the first-team dressing-room, as assistant to Raddy Antic.

In other words, Fernandez is a non-playing antithesis to Johan Cruff, and already has attracted offers from clubs able to pay higher salaries than Zaragoza. Wisely, one suspects, he has opted to stay put in La Romareda where he enjoys the full support of the board and is cushioned by a favourable media.

He sums up his philosophy with one sentence. "Basically, I try to make my team play the sort of football that, as a fan, I always liked to watch." It works.

"Packet" Higuera . . . national call-up

Pier heads for fame

Clemente . . . maximum points.

SIX POINTS from two games gave Spain the ideal launching pad for their assault on Denmark in the European Championship qualifier in Seville.

The win in Macedonia, where Denmark had struggled to snatch a 1-1 draw, was a much-needed morale-booster after a dismal display in Cyprus.

Javier Clemente has repeatedly lamented the lack of home-grown strikers in Spanish football, and the two goals in Skopje came from old workhorse Julio Salinas. But the novelty was the debut, three days before his 23rd birthday, of Pier, a player once hailed as "the new Van Basten". We all know, of course, that Van Basten has no Pier.

If you had trouble swallowing "Jelly", try Pier Luigi Cherubino Lolli, born in Rome on October 15, 1971 and whisked off to Tenerife at the age of six when his dad, Enzo, decided to prolong a holiday by opening up a fencing school.

Cherubino Junior crossed swords with his father by switching to football and scoring 37 goals in one season with the Puerto de la Cruz youth team. In 1990 he was granted Spanish nationality and two national team managers were responsible for giving him his first tastes of League football.

Bolivia's World Cup boss, Xavier Azkargorta, pushed him into the Tenerife first team and Clemente's predecessor, Vicente Miera, offered him a revised contract and a get-out clause valued at £1.25million. But when Valdano took over at Tenerife, Pier was consigned to the bench, and it was one of the summer's least-heralded moves when he was transferred to Sporting Gijon.

"I was a little concerned that my career seemed to be stagnating," he admits.

"But Clemente's call into the national team has given me new incentives and my aim must now be to consolidate my status as an international player."

Julio Salinas . . . on target for the national side.

One of those days

REAL MADRID had one of those days on October 23 when nothing worked for them.

The AGM postponed debate on plans to raise £30million via what amounts to a share issue. President Ramon Mendoza gained approval for a £42million budget, and hinted that he will seek re-election next year. Seven board members whose appointments had been declared null and void by a local tribunal were "re-elected". The three-and-a-half hour meeting was meant to be the curtain-raiser for a resounding victory over newly-promoted Compostela, but it did not turn out that way.

Fernando Redondo's League debut, a fourth minute opening goal by Jose Emilio Amavisca — called into the national team for the 2-0 win in Macedonia — and 20 minutes of great football suggested that the script would be respected.

Then referee Contador Crespo limped off with a calf injury, and the fourth match official, Gonzalez Diaz, took eight minutes to get stripped off. When play restarted Real had cooled in all senses of the word.

A second-half equaliser from former Real recruit Christopher Ohenhen rattled coach Jorge Valdano so much that he forgot about Redondo's return, and sent on Peter Dubovsky to replace Luis Enrique.

Two minutes later he realised that Redondo plus Zamorano plus Laudrup plus Dubovsky meant four foreign players, whereas Spanish regulations permit only three foreigners on the pitch at any given time. Exit Dubovsky, and 10-man Real had to settle for a draw.

Had Compostela been losing, they could have used Leeds v Stuttgart precedents to claim a replay, but the final whistle was greeted with hugs and kisses.

When asked if he would appeal against the result, "Compos" coach Fernando Santos roared "NO ***** WAY". Demands for Real to have two points deducted came from — surprise, surprise — the Barcelona president, Josep Lluis Nunez.

● Barcelona, in the meantime, had been the main beneficiary from some curiously erratic refereeing.

Their "luck" raised so many hackles elsewhere that there were widespread demands for the reinstatement of the old system whereby names were put in a hat rather than the current system of direct designation. Barcelona have objected. . .

● Francisco Maturana resigned as coach of Atletico following the 2-0 home defeat by Real Betis. Atletico had two players sent off in the game and have now sunk to 18th place.

President Jesus Gil had opted to slam his players for lack of commitment rather than blame the coach. Polish striker Roman Kosecki, the great disappointment of the season, has been transfer-listed. Gil's master plan for a revival is to bring Paulo Futre back from Reggiana. Now he must also find a new manager.

RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

COMPOSTELA 0
LA CORUNA 1 (Bebeto 65). **Att:** 10,000.

TENERIFE 3 (Latorre 76, Pizzi 82, 90)
REAL SOCIEDAD 0. **Att:** 16,000.

VALENCIA 1 (Fernando 77)
REAL OVIEDO 0. **Att:** 45,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 6 (Geli 7, Pirri 18, Kiko 27, 29, 54, 66)
VALLADOLID 0. **Att:** 40,000.

ZARAGOZA 2 (Esnaider 11, Geli 22)
BARCELONA 1 (Koeman 73 pen). **Att:** 35,000.

ESPANOL 0
CELTA VIGO 0. **Att:** 30,000.

RACING SANTANDER 0
REAL BETIS 0. **Att:**18,000.

SPORTING GIJON 1 (Velasco 86)
REAL MADRID 0. **Att:** 23,500.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Suances 54)
LOGRONES 0. **Att:** 27,000.

SEVILLA 0
ALBACETE 2 (Dertycia 52, Antonio 83). **Att:** 30,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

WEEKEND

BARCELONA 4 (Romario 10, 77, Guardiola 33, Stoichkov 40)
ATLETICO MADRID 3 (Pirri 26, Kiko 80, Valencia 86). **Att:** 95,000.

REAL SOCIEDAD 0
SEVILLA 0. **Att:** 16,000.

REAL OVIEDO 1 (Carlos 32)
TENERIFE 2 (Felipe 38, Chano pen 43). **Att:** 13,937.

REAL VALLADOLID 2 (Nilson 55, Miguelo 90)
VALENCIA 0. **Att:** 15,000.

LA CORUNA 3 (Donato pen 16, Claudio 78, 86)
REAL ZARAGOZA 3 (Poyet 20, Santiago Aragon 37, pen 56). **Att:** 20,000.

CELTA VIGO 1 (Gudelj pen 45)
COMPOSTELA 2 (Lucas 65, Ohen 70). **Att:** 28,000.

REAL BETIS 3 (Marquez 23, 88, Stosic 62)
ESPANOL 1 (Roberto 44). **Att:** 32,000.

REAL MADRID 3 (Zamorano 2, Martin Vazquez 55, Butragueno 64)
RACING SANTANDER 1 (Quique Setien 60). **Att:** 90,000.

LOGRONES 1 (Markovic pen 41)
SPORTING GIJON 3 (Muniz 44 pen, Moran 52, Tomas 86). **Att:** 8,000.

ALBACETE 1 (Dertycia 47)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Suances 77, Larrainzar 80). **Att:** 8,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

VALENCIA 1 (Mijatovic 13)
BARCELONA 2 (Koeman pen 53, Stoichkov 90). **Att:** 47,000.

AT. MADRID 1 (Valencia 43)
LA CORUNA 1 (Kostadinov 52). **Att:** 50,000.

REAL ZARAGOZA 4 (Poyet 6, Franco 11, Higuera 45, Pardeza 58)
CELTA VIGO 0. **Att:** 22,000.

REAL SOCIEDAD 3 (Loren 6, Kodro 47, 63)
OVIEDO 1 (Carlos 35). **Att:** 15,000.

TENERIFE 0
VALLADOLID 0. **Att:** 18,000.

COMPOSTELA 1 (Tocornal 17)
BETIS 1 (Cuellar 70). **Att:** 9,500.

ESPANOL 1 (Lotov 59)
REAL MADRID 2 (Amavisca 26, 40). **Att:** 40,000.

RACING SANTANDER 3 (Villabona 30, Torre 43, Roncal 56)
LOGRONES 0. **Att:**16,000.

SPORTING GIJON 3 (Moran 18, Tomas 45, Marcos Vales 54)
ALBACETE 2 (Andonov 80, Cordero 88). **Att:** 16,600.

SEVILLA 0
ATH. BILBAO 0. **Att:** 30,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

ALBACETE 2 (Morientes 48, Oscar 58)
SANTANDER 0. **Att:** 11,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Mendiguren 9, Garitano 62)
GIJON 0. **Att:** 28,000.

BARCELONA 1 (Bakero 5)
TENERIFE 0. **Att:** 90,000.

REAL BETIS 0
ZARAGOZA 1 (Higuera 86). **Att:** 35,000.

CELTA VIGO 1 (Losada 15)
AT. MADRID 0. **Att:** 15,000.

LA CORUNA 3 (Donato pen 19, Bebeto 51, 67)
VALENCIA 1 (Roberto 54). **Att:** 25,000.

LOGRONES 1 (Matute 46)
ESPANOL 1 (Marai 63). **Att:** 9,000.

REAL OVIEDO 1 (Prosinecki 10)
SEVILLA 0. **Att:** 14,000.

REAL MADRID 1 (Amavisca 4)
COMPOSTELA 1 (Ohen 57). **Att:** 107,000.

VALLADOLID 1 (Alberto 12)
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Karpin 81). **Att:** 13,000.

PRIMERA DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	APts
La Coruna	9	5	4	0	16	9 14
Zaragoza	9	6	2	1	19	12 14
Real Madrid	9	5	2	2	19	9 12
Barcelona	9	5	2	2	16	10 12
Ath. Bilbao	9	5	2	2	9	8 12
Real Betis	9	4	3	2	15	5 11
Espanol	9	3	4	2	17	10 10
Tenerife	9	3	4	2	10	7 10
Valencia	9	5	0	4	12	11 10
Sevilla	9	3	3	3	8	8 9
Compostela	9	3	3	3	9	12 9
Spt Gijon	9	4	1	4	11	18 9
Celta Vigo	9	2	4	3	6	10 8
Sociedad	9	2	3	4	9	12 7
Real Oviedo	9	3	1	5	10	14 7
Albacete	9	2	3	4	12	17 7
Valladolid	9	2	3	4	5	13 7
At. Madrid	9	2	1	6	14	15 5
Santander	9	1	2	6	7	13 4
Logrones	9	0	3	6	3	14 3

BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

A word in your ear . . . Bayern Munich coach Giovanni Trapattoni with his assistant, Klaus Augenthaler.

War of words

BAYERN MUNICH can look back on the first 100 days of manager Giovanni Trapattoni's reign without being quite convinced that they made the right choice.

While his credentials are impeccable (16 national and international titles), his lack of German language and his determination to make the team play the Italians way – counter-attacking from deep positions – have not been too well received, or understood by some players.

To add to the undercurrent of discontent, Trapattoni had a row with his expensive striker, Jean-Pierre Papin, who apparently disregarded tactical instructions during a training session. The two are not on speaking terms.

Papin, now 31, has been none too impressed with the treatment he has received from Trapattoni. "He took me to a game in Hassfurth. I told him that the doctor had told me to rest but he said: 'I am the doctor here. I'm the boss and you're playing.' So I played and after 30 minutes I was in pain again. That is stupid. The doctor says one thing, [manager Uli] Hoeness another and Trap something else. But there is no tension between us now. We had a disagreement and that was it," Papin said.

Word of advice . . . Lothar Matthaus.

Trappatoni, who gave his team a stern lecture about talking about team-mates in public, said: "If he [Papin] is mentally and physically ready he can play, but not for the whole 90 minutes."

Meanwhile, a war of words has also broken out between Papin and international veteran Lothar Matthaus.

The split in the Franco-German alliance emerged when Papin, who joined Bayern from Milan in the summer but has spent much of the season struggling to overcome a knee injury, said he had never experienced such an absence of team spirit in any club in his career. Matthaus responded that Papin had been talking nonsense.

Papin said: "I have never experienced this before. In this club everybody talks about everybody else. There is no solidarity. I have played in France, in Belgium, in Italy and now in Germany and I think I know what goes on.

"In France you never talk badly about team-mates and in Italy it is forbidden. You would have been thrown out of Milan for that. We are 20 players, four officials and two doctors. We have to stick together. But here at Bayern a basic respect for each other is not there."

Skipper Matthaus, the most-capped player in German football history and the acknowledged 'leader' at Bayern, was unimpressed by the Frenchman's whining.

He said: "Papin is talking rubbish, a lot of rubbish. There was one occasion when Oliver Kreuzer and I had a little argument. But Papin doesn't understand the German language and didn't follow what was going on. I have never experienced such excellent team spirit as there is here and now. But Jean-Pierre should be warned: If he goes on making headlines like that he is going to have problems of his own ahead because the team can also read what he is saying. He should worry about his own problems with his fitness."

Papin's position in Munich may be further undermined by the arrival of Dutchman Dennis Bergkamp from Internazionale of Italy. A high-profile Bayern Munich delegation (comprising Franz Beckenbauer, deputy president Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and manager Uli Hoeness) flew to Milan recently to discuss a possible deal. Bayern are rumoured to have offered £5million while Inter want £8million.

More trouble is simmering among other pros unhappy at the role of reserves in the Bundesliga's most expensive squad. Brazilian 'World champion' Jorginho apparently received an offer from Japan which could earn him a fortune.

At press time, Bayern expect to acquire a new board under president Franz Beckenbauer, Germany's most famous footballer and successful national coach. But his powers and influence, as compared with club chairmen in Italy or England, are relatively limited.

German clubs are run by committees elected by the club members to whom they are answerable, for a duration of three to four years.

That is why the German club presidents (except the boss of 1860 Munich on a modest scale) do not

Words out of turn . . . Jean-Pierre Papin.

pump their own money into the club. There is no equivalent to such benefactors as Jack Walker of Blackburn Rovers, or even those rich Italian moguls who control the clubs by virtue of being the principal shareholders.

Their German counterparts have no voting powers either, to decide for example on the League structure, or agreeing TV and sponsorship contracts for the whole Bundesliga.

Such matters are organised by the DFB (FA) hierarchy, who supervise all aspects of football.

Freiburg join the big boys

THE team in the spotlight are unfashionable SC Freiburg, who reached the dizzy heights of third place for a time.

Last season – their first in the Bundesliga – they saved themselves from relegation only by virtue of superior goal difference to Nurnberg, but their 5-1 win over champions Bayern Munich in the second game of this season sounded a warning.

Then a 3-0 victory against Hamburg propelled the provincials to third. No wonder that the Dreisam-stadium – smallest in the Bundesliga, with an 18,000 capacity – is packed for every match. And thousands accompany the red-and-blacks to away games.

Team manager Volker Finke, 46, has played only for little-known regional teams and managed minnows, but since 1991 he has done wonders with a relatively inexperienced squad in this educational centre at the entrance to the Black Forest.

Finke, unable to compete on the transfer market with the big guns, has persuaded the directors to seek cheaper players abroad.

Freiburg now have a Russian and Albanian international, plus two Argentinians, a Croat and a Greek in their ranks. Three men have played in neighbouring Switzerland.

How long Freiburg can keep up their sensational advance is anybody's guess, but certainly they have now earned respect and nobody regards them as pushovers any more.

Certainly not Bayern, who were demolished 5-1 on that unforgettable Wednesday night in August in what was perhaps Freiburg's greatest display in their 90-year history.

Words of persuasion . . . SC Freiburg's coach, Volker Finke.

● **GERMANY'S insipid 0-0 draw with mediocre Hungary in Budapest was quickly forgotten.**

No fewer than 10 players withdrew from the squad through injury and sickness, although this was the last test before the start of the European Championship qualifying campaign.

The game certainly did not provide manager Berti Vogts with any pointers. He tried four newcomers, defender Dirk Schuster (Karlsruhe), midfielder Jens Todt (Freiburg), plus the strikers Fredi Bobic (VfB Stuttgart) and substitute Olaf Marschall (Kaiserslautern), but they all need time to become integrated into the formation. Under the circumstances their selection, having enlarged the circle of candidates, contrived only to saddle poor Berti with additional problems.

● **EWALD LIENEN has been fired as coach of MSV Duisburg, who are still without a win after 11 Bundesliga matches.**

Lienen was a Bundesliga star for Borussia Monchengladbach for many years, before ending his playing career at Duisburg. Under his guidance as coach last season, Duisburg finished ninth in their first season after gaining promotion to the First Division.

But Duisberg have only two draws after 11 games and are locked firmly to the botttom of the Bundesliga with just two points.

Lienen's successor will be Hannes Bongartz, who was sacked in March last year by Wattenscheid.

● **SIEGFRIED 'SIGGI' HELD, who played in the 1966 World Cup Final, will become the first German to coach in the J.League.**

Held's German club, Dynamo Dresden, have announced that he will take over at Matsushita Gamba in May.

RESULTS

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bor. Dortmund	11	8	2	1	27	10	18
Werder Bremen	11	7	3	1	21	12	17
Hamburg	11	6	2	3	21	12	14
Borussia Mg	11	5	4	2	21	13	14
SC Freiburg	11	6	2	3	23	17	14
Kaiserslautern	11	5	4	2	19	13	14
Leverkusen	11	4	5	2	23	15	13
Bayern Munich	11	4	5	2	22	17	13
VfB Stuttgart	11	5	3	3	23	19	13
Karlsruhe	11	5	3	3	21	19	13
Schalke	11	2	6	3	14	15	10
Ein. Frankfurt	11	3	4	4	9	15	9
Dyn. Dresden	11	3	2	6	11	17	8
Koln	11	2	4	5	18	26	8
Uerdingen	11	1	5	4	9	14	7
1860 Munich	11	1	3	7	11	21	5
VfL Bochum	11	2	1	8	11	28	5
MSV Duisburg	11	0	2	9	7	27	2

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Seeliger og 13)
1860 MUNICH 1 (Pacult pen 68). **Att:** 20,200.

BOCHUM 1 (Gudjonsson 88)
DUISBURG 0. **Att:** 24,117.

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Ziege 66, Zickler 82)
KOLN 2 (Labbadia 43, Polster 44). **Att:** 63,000.

KARLSRUHE 3 (Bonan 74, Knup 76, 79)
KAISERSLAUTERN 3 (Sforza 12, Kuka 22, Marschall 44). **Att:** 33,000.

BAYER UERDINGEN 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Cesar 80, Moller 90). **Att:** 30,984.

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 3 (Schafer og 17, Hapal 76, Sergio 81)
VfB STUTTGART 1 (Kruse 57). **Att:** 19,100.

FREIBURG 1 (Cardoso 31)
BORUSSIA MG 1 (Effenberg 14). **Att:** 17,500.

SCHALKE 0
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 0. **Att:** 33;160.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

WEEKEND

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Kuka 9)
BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Zickler 76). **Att:** 38,500.
(Played Wednesday October 5)

WERDER BREMEN 1 (Bestchastnykh 11)
HAMBURG 4 (Letchkov 29, Hubchev 38, Wiedener 44 og, Zarate 79). **Att:** 38,878.

BORUSSIA MG 3 (Herrlich 53, Dahlin 57, 63)
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 3 (Voller 12, 18, Happe 71). **Att:** 32,000.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 1 (Yeboah pen 61)
KARLSRUHE 0. **Att:** 30,700.

DUISBURG 1 (Kozle 78)
FREIBURG 2 (U. Spies 63, Cardoso pen 74). **Att:** 17,000.

VfB STUTTGART 3 (Kogl 30, 71 pen, Kruse 53)
BAYER UERDINGEN 1 (Laessig 81). **Att:** 18,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 (Chapuisat 20, Zorc pen 27 Moller 72)
SCHALKE 2 (Chapuisat 20, Anderbrugge pen 70). **Att:** 42,800.

KOLN 1 (Polster 83)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 2 (M. Spies 18, Ekstrom 57). **Att:** 23,000.

1860 MUNICH 1 (Miller 41)
WERDER BREMEN 2 (Bode 42, 50). **Att:** 27,000.

HAMBURG 3 (Sporl pen 33, 50, Letchkov 42)
BOCHUM 1 (Gudjonsson 21). **Att:** 29,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

FREIBURG 3 (Spanring 10, Kohl 26, Heinrich 47)
HAMBURG 0. **Att:** 17,500.

KARLSRUHE 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. **Att:** 33,700.

BOCHUM 2 (Wegmann 45, Da Palma 58)
1860 MUNICH 2 (Trares 76, Schneider og 82). **Att:** 23,882.

DYNAMO DRESDEN 1 (Ekstrom 18)
KAISERSLAUTERN 0. **Att:** 20,750.

BAYERN 3 (Babbel 37, Ziege 72, Sutter 87)
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 3 (Dickhaut 4, Doll 55, Komljenovic 87). **Att:** 63,000.

SCHALKE 1 (A. Muller 27)
VfB STUTTGART 1 (Kruse 16). **Att:** 31,590.

BORUSSIA MG 1 (Wynhoff 15)
DUISBURG 0. **Att:** 32,800.

BREMEN 2 (Bode 20, Bestchastnykh 48)
KOLN 2 (Polster 51, Weiser 80). **Att:** 26,867.

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 1 (Sergio pen 21)
BAYER UERDINGEN 1 (Heintze 31). **Att:** 12,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1 (Riedle 79)
BAYERN MUNICH 0. **Att:** 42,800.

DUISBURG 0
LEVERKUSEN 2 (Lehnhoff 45, Voller 49). **Att:** 17,500.

EIN. FRANKFURT 2 (Furtok 46, Yeboah 55)
DYNAMO DRESDEN 0. **Att:** 22,800.

HAMBURG 1 (Baron 16)
BORUSSIA MG 2 (Wynhoff 52, Kastenmaier 86). **Att:** 39.,745.

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Kuka 60)
BREMEN 1 (Bestchastnykh 73). **Att:** 38,500.

KOLN 2 (Rudy 5, Polster pen 28)
BOCHUM 1 (Wegmann 25). **Att:** 25,000.

VfB STUTTGART 4 (Kruse 5, Bobic 42, Kogl pen 53, Dunga 82)
KARLSRUHE 0. **Att:** 50,000.

1860 MUNICH 4 (Trares 4, Winkler 35, 80, Bodden 65)
FREIBURG 0. **Att:** 29,000.

BAYER UERDINGEN 1 (Heintze 59)
SCHALKE 1 (Thon 47). **Att:** 21,500.

Alain's elan

BY ANDRE DUCLOS

Former Marseille midfielder Alain Boghossian has settled down extremely well in Italy, despite Napoli's recent problems

Content . . . Marseille goalkeeper Fabien Barthez.

YOU MAY have noticed that the Napoli midfielder who so shrewdly and skilfully headed the ball through for little Carbone to equalise against Boavista, in a UEFA Cup game in Portugal, was Alain Boghossian.

That was a moment of deep relief for a Napoli side who had just been crushed 5-1 by Lazio, but not alas for their manager, Guerini, previously and generously described by Boghossian as "the right person for the group". Poor Guerini had been sacked.

Boghossian would have been quite happy for Guerini to stay, and says: "It seems absurd to ask questions about him. He found himself with a totally new team and in little time had to complete an incredible job.

"Guerini knows football and clearly said what he wants from us. There is plenty of discussion in the dressing room. A footballer can freely express himself and his views to the manager.

"Perhaps it is just for this reason that I have had few problems in settling down. It's been exquisite, both with the city and with the people. They have received me as if I'd been one of them for who knows how long."

The irony of it is that as soon as Vujadin Boskov, the veteran Yugsolav coach, arrived at Napoli, they beat Bari 3-0. But Boghossian surely gains points for the way he stuck up for Guerini, who justifiably proclaimed that the Napoli directors should be ashamed of themselves for the way they treated him.

Those of you who saw Boghossian in the wars at Highbury during the pre-season Makita tournament may not have been too impressed. But plainly he was not match-fit, and subsequently he has been doing better and better in the Napoli midfield.

Certainly he has had more luck than his former team-mate, Didier Deschamps, who had scarcely joined Juventus before an injury put him out for many weeks.

Boghossian, born in Digne on October 20, 1970, of Armenian descent, may have seen his turning point at Napoli when, playing in the UEFA Cup in Reggia, he stopped what looked a sure goal, on the line.

He was found by Marseille as a boy, and played in their youth teams before they lent him to Istres to gain experience. Later, when he had played for France in Morocco in the 1993 military tournament, they wanted to put him out on loan again, this time to Angers. But an injury to a key player made him change their mind and give him his chance. Curiously, he began as a goalkeeper, only to switch to midfield. "My role is to win the ball from the opposition, in the central area, and break forward with it. I have a pretty good long-range shot. I should be the schemer, and make the team and the ball keep moving."

Meanwhile his old team, Marseille, though they were surprised by Sion in the UEFA Cup, going out on the away goals rule, should soon be back in the top division.

Whether Tony Cascarino will continue to be as prolific there as in the lower regions remains to be seen. He did not get much change that evening in Switzerland, where his power in the air was countered.

Cascarino has been having his ups and downs even in the League. From the sublime to the ridiculous, you might say, in a recent match at Nimes, where no fewer than 18,000 spectators turned up. Four minutes after half-time, Cascarino, at the near post, exploited a cross by Marquet, from the left to score the only goal. Then he clashed with home centre-back Prejet, and was sent off.

Promising young goalkeeper Fabien Barthez is perfectly happy with the way things are going at Marseille. At the start of the season, he says, he thought he was going to be fed up with playing in Division Two. But it hasn't worked out like that.

"On the contrary," he says. "I just don't stop. I've an infernal rhythm of life. I'm doing too much. I've been living too long at 200 kilometres an hour, and I'm beginning to feel it.

"Playing against Toulouse, I had two bad little moments. My head spinning. Flashes. I did not see a thing. My legs turned to cotton. I really don't know what happened.

"I'd got back from Saint Etienne [where he was reserve goalkeeper for France] in the night. I slept very little. But it is up to me to do what I should to rest . . . I'll start by refusing to do interviews."

Of Cascarino and his new lease of life in France, Barthes says: "I'm not sure it is down to pressure from Bernard Tapie. I don't believe that Tony understands what the boss is saying when they chat."

Yannick (not Graeme!) Le Saux has something to say about Cascarino, too. Le Saux of St Brieuc, last season's top scorer in Division Two, has broken a leg and has had to watch as Cascarino streaks away to lead this season's scorers.

"It's much easier to play with 9 on your back for Marseille," he says. "But I really prefer Ferreri. He's really been something from the start!"

● TWO GOALS from Nicolas Ouedec, on his 23rd birthday, helped Nantes to a 3-0 win over Strasbourg as the Canaries moved six points clear at the top of the French league.

● PARIS ST GERMAIN became the first team to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup, after a 1-0 win at home to Kiev Dynamo. PSG have won all six of their European matches this season.

● BORDEAUX held a crisis meeting and sacked a player within 24 hours of their elimination from the UEFA Cup by Katowice. Defender Laurent Croci, who had criticised coach Toni, was banned from the senior squad and told to find a new club.

Commanding . . . Napoli midfielder Alain Boghossian.

Clashing . . . Nicolas Oudec (left) of Nantes and Jose Cobos of Strasbourg.

Field of dreams

Simon Inglis reports on the search for a stadium fit to stage the 1998 World Cup Final

FROM the Rose Bowl back into the melting pot – normal World Cup service has been resumed as France prepares for 1998 amid the sort of rows over stadium designs and contracts not witnessed since Italia '90. Plus ça change!

The French may be planning to spend only $525million on 10 venues, roughly half what the Italians reportedly spent four years ago, but that still represents 10 times the total invested by the US. And of course, most of the French stadiums will still only be half the size of the American superbowls.

Fortunately we all know it's not size but quality which counts, hence the bulk of French costs, some $360million, will go towards the most prestigious of the projects, the construction of a new 80,000-capacity Grand Stade for the opening ceremony and Final.

From an original list of 26 locations in 1991, it took three successive French governments three attempts to agree finally on a site, a former gasworks in St Denis, 3km north of the capital.

That decision looks to be the right one. But what will the Grand Stade look like?

On October 5 Prime Minister Edouard Balladur provided the answer, and a whole new slanging match began.

Briefly, this is what occurred. After considering 18 submissions, a panel of experts, including Michel Platini, put forward two designs as finalists. One of them, by the admired architect Jean Nouvel, was extremely sophisticated, involving four moving stands, retractable roofs and flexible seating decks.

The other, by the Zublena-Macary partnership, was a more traditional, elliptical stadium but with moving seats on the lower tier to allow both for football or rugby, and for an athletics track. The design's main feature, a flat, disc-like roof supported on 20 steel masts, looked fine, but whether appropriate for Paris, even if it could be built as the model suggests, was quite another matter.

The judges' preference was a clear 10-4 vote in favour of Nouvel. But Balladur, the only judge who counted, went for the other one.

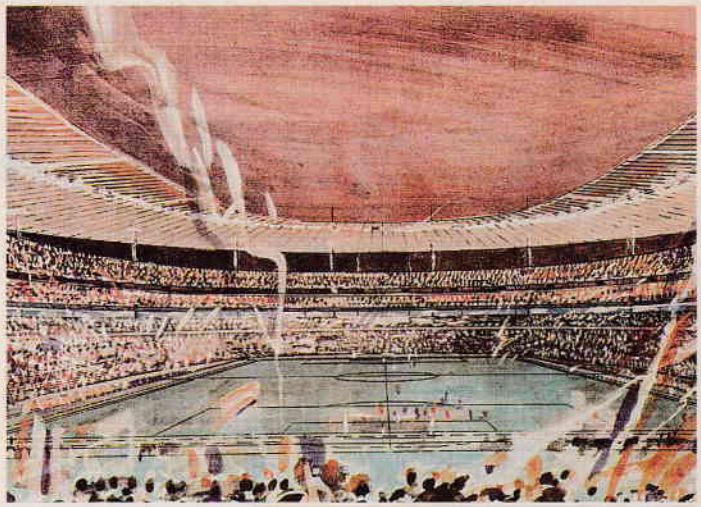
Architectural critics have panned his choice. One called it "not grand but gross". Balladur replied that Nouvel's scheme would have cost an additional $300million, and that the technology was too complex to be risked in such a short period.

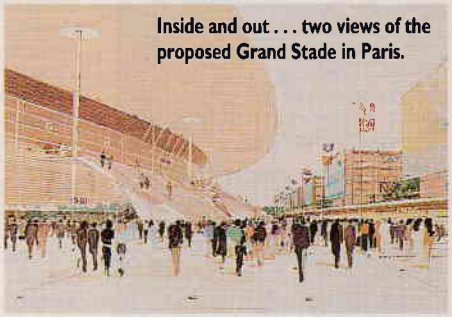
But as the French press reported, probably a bigger factor was that a day earlier the French government awarded a massive tele-communications contract to the same building company which had, through its subsidiaries, submitted the Nouvel design. Balladur could hardly hand out a second important deal so soon afterwards.

The next issue to be settled concerns finance. The government will pay just under 50 per cent of the Grand Stade's costs, leaving the rest to be raised by the contractors and an appointed stadium operator.

But the leading candidate for this role, the TV channel *Canal Plus* (which jointly runs the Parc des Princes and has a stake in Paris St Germain) is unhappy with the Zublena-Macary design, claiming it lacks flexibility for the type of non-sporting events needed to make the stadium viable.

While talks continue, work is scheduled to start next April and be finished by early 1998. Now, where have you heard promises like that before?





Inside and out . . . two views of the proposed Grand Stade in Paris.

● TEN venues will host the 1998 tournament. There were no suprises, only disappointment that, because neither Strasbourg, Nancy nor Metz is on the list, the east of France will not share in La Gloire. Strasbourg in particular proved unwilling to spend the millions required to add an extra tier to its 1984 Stade de la Meinau in order to provide the minimum 30,000 seats.

There is also an ongoing dispute with Marseille over the final capacity for the revamped Stade Velodrome. The French organising committee (CFO) promised FIFA it would hold 60,000, but now local politicians including, inevitably, Bernard Tapie, have argued that 50,000 would be more appropriate. They have a point, but the CFO is determined not to back down and it might require a sweetener from Paris to force a settlement.

Bordeaux: Parc Lescure (projected all-seat capacity 36,500)
Lens: Stade Felix-Bollaert (35,050)
Lyon: Stade de Gerland (32,000)
Marseille: Stade Velodrome (provisionally 60,000)
Montpellier: Stade de la Mosson (35,500)
Nantes: Stade de la Beaujoire (40,000)
Paris: Parc des Princes (49,700)
St Denis: Grand Stade (80,000)
St Etienne: Stade Geoffroy-Guichard (35,924)
Toulouse: Le Stadium (37,638)

RESULTS

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nantes	15	9	6	0	30	13	33
Paris SG	15	8	3	4	23	13	27
Lyon	15	7	6	2	22	17	27
Lens	15	7	5	3	23	14	26
Auxerre	15	6	7	2	26	13	25
Cannes	15	7	3	5	22	15	24
Strasbourg	15	7	3	5	21	16	24
Bordeaux	15	6	5	4	21	19	23
Martigues	15	6	4	5	22	22	22
St Etienne	15	5	5	5	20	15	20
Rennes	15	5	5	5	17	24	20
Monaco	15	5	4	6	13	12	19
Metz	15	4	5	6	12	18	17
Bastia	15	4	4	7	16	24	16
Lille	15	4	4	7	11	20	16
Sochaux	15	2	8	5	16	25	15
Le Havre	15	2	8	5	14	20	14
Caen	15	4	1	10	14	20	13
Nice	15	3	4	8	12	22	13
Montpellier	15	1	7	7	13	24	10

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND
SOCHAUX 1 (Mendy 34)
LENS 1 (Foe 64). **Att:** 3,278.
CAEN 1 (Dedebant 87)
PARIS SG 2 (Llacer 55, Gerrmain og 78). **Att:** 16,414.
STRASBOURG 3 (Gravelaine 21, Bouafia 45, Leboeuf pen 71)
LE HAVRE 0. **Att:** 14,750.
NANTES 3 (Pignol 38, Ouedec 69, N'Doram 88 pen)
BORDEAUX 3 (Fofana 75, Zidane 78, Dugarry 90). **Att:** 29,980.
LYON 1 (Amoros pen 62)
NICE 1 (Mangione 25). **Att:** 22,500.
MONACO 1 (Madar 35)
MARTIGUES 0. **Att:** 3,500.
METZ 0
MONTPELLIER 0. **Att:** 8,662.
CANNES 0
LILLE 0. **Att:** 6,000.
BASTIA 1 (Drobnjak 5)
RENNES 2 (Thomas 68, Gourvennec pen 82). **Att:** 6,000.
AUXERRE 3 (Laslandes 14, Martins 20, Harcheche og 65)
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 10,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

MIDWEEK
LENS 1 (Meyrieu 53)
STRASBOURG 0. **Att:** 20,000.
MONTPELLIER 2 (Divert 39, Lefevre 77)
LYON 2 (Bardon 75, Debbah 85). **Att:** 8,000.
MARTIGUES 1 (Tholot 71)
METZ 1 (Masson 48). **Att:** 4,000.
ST ETIENNE 1 (Wohlfarth 80)
BASTIA 2 (Camadini 74, Drobnjak 82). **Att:** 10,878.
RENNES 2 (Michel 35, Witford 40)
AUXERRE 2 (Matins 68, Verlaat 73). **Att:** 14,739.
BORDEAUX 0
MONACO 3 (Croci og 25, Djorkaeff pen 29, Anderson da Silva 59). **Att:** 20,000.
NICE 0
CAEN 1 (Simba 70). **Att:** 6,000.
LE HAVRE 0
NANTES 0. **Att:** 11,252.
PARIS SG 3 (Weah 8, 78, Rai 25)
LILLE 0. **Att:** 31,257.
SOCHAUX 2 (Mendy 37, 69)
CANNES 1 (Durix 75). **Att:** 6,000.
WEEKEND
LILLE 1 (Sibierski 45)
NICE 0. **Att:** 5,415.
CAEN 1 (Dedebant 69)
MONTPELLIER 0. **Att:** 14,888.
STRASBOURG 3 (Mostovoi 21, 33, Leboeuf 25)
SOCHAUX 2 (Vos 39, 59). **Att:** 16,493.
AUXERRE 3 (Lasiandes 27, 63, Guerreiro 66)
MARTIGUES 0. **Att:** 9,000.
NANTES 3 (Loko 21, 49, Markelele 89)
LENS 0. **Att:** 28,000.
LYON 3 (Maurice 16, 36, Paille 85)
RENNES 0. **Att:** 20,000.
METZ 2 (Zitelli 56, Pouget 67)
LE HAVRE 1 (Daury 33). **Att:** 6,800.
CANNES 2 (Kozniku 67, Micoud 73, Horlaville 80)
PARIS SG 2 (Ginola pen 59, Valdo 90). **Att:** 11,000.
BASTIA 0
BORDEAUX 0. **Att:** 8,000.
MONACO 0
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 4,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND
BORDEAUX 4 (Histilloles 8, Dugarry 23, Zidane 42, Dutuel 70)
METZ 2 (Vercruysse 19, Pires 45). **Att:** 12,000.
LE HAVRE 2 (Daury 20, Caveglia pen 80)
BASTIA 2 (Drobnjak 4, Dewilder 66). **Att:** 7,175.
LENS 4 (Boli 3, 81,Tiehi 49, 60)
LYON 0. **Att:** 23,271.
MARTIGUES 4 (Chantreuil 5, Bertilsson 54, Benarbia 70, 73)
CAEN 1 (Andersson 89). **Att:** 4,000.
MONTPELLIER 1 (Divert pen 39)
AUXERRE 1 (Moureaux 89). **Att:** 10,268.
NICE 0
PARIS SG 4 (Rai 20, Weah 31, Rai 68, Nourna 70). **Att:** 8,985.
ST ETIENNE 1 (Camara 69)
CANNES 0. **Att:** 14,077.
SOCHAUX 0
NANTES 0. **Att:** 7,985.
RENNES 1 (Michel 47)
LILLE 0. **Att:** 10,705.
STRASBOURG 1 (Frankowski 8)
MONACO 0. **Att:** 30,514.

Holland

Aad de Mos sacked

AAD DE MOS has been sacked by PSV as chief coach.

Things started to go wrong early in the season when Bayer Leverkusen knocked PSV out of the UEFA Cup in the first round. Then things just went from bad to worse for de Mos. He was criticised for some of his selections and when PSV lost 4-1 at home to Ajax it wasn't simply dropping valuable points, but the way PSV played.

Skipper Jan Wouters was being used as a sweeper and the national team's first-choice central defender, Stan Valckx, at left-back.

Jan Wouters . . . out of position.

PSV's answer to this situation has been to bring back Kees Rijvers. Officially it is a temporary appointment, as Rijvers is 68 and PSV's international scout, but he still has a good name in Eindhoven. Jan Wouters was given his first chance in the Dutch national team when Rijvers was Holland manager and Willy Van der Kuylen and Ernie Brandts, now assistant coaches, played under Rijvers when he was PSV's chief coach.

Following Rijvers' appointment, PSV promptly went out and thrashed Groningen 5-0.

On a peaceful note, Kees Ploegsma has left PSV as general manager to set up his own business concentrating on the marketing side of football. No hard feelings here — PSV promptly offered him a contract to handle their marketing affairs.

Elsewhere, Feyenoord have parted company with general manager Thijs Libregts. Chairman Jorien Van Den Herik blamed him for making life difficult for chief coach Willem Van Hanegem by talking to the press. Meanwhile, Van Den Herik is trying to sign Glaucio de Jesus Carvalho, the 18-year-old Brazilian youth international midfielder.

ERIC NICHOLLS

Aad de Mos
. . . out of a job.

Portugal

Sporting's chance?

IT IS 13 years since Sporting Clube de Portugal — or Sporting Lisbon, as they are more commonly known — last won the Portuguese title.

Indeed, in the 88 years of their existence, Sporting have almost always played second-fiddle to city-rivals Benfica and, in more recent times, FC Porto.

But there are signs that Sporting could break the Big Two's monopoly this season. After eight rounds of the championship, Sporting hold a two-point lead over FC Porto, and have yet to lose a League game.

Early elimination from the UEFA Cup, by Real Madrid, has left the "Lions" free to concentrate on the League, unlike their eternal rivals Benfica and Porto, who are still diverted by European matters.

Leading the Sporting charge is Poland international striker Andrzej Juskowiak, who heads the scoring charts with five goals. He is backed up by a crop of young players who led Portugal to the World Youth Cup in 1990 and 1991. Chief among them is 22-year-old midfielder Luis Figo, now a possible target for Manchester City, who were tipped off about him by Malcolm Allison, formerly in charge of both clubs.

And yet, Sporting coach Carlos Queiroz has managed to keep his side in the hunt for honours at a time when his squad has been changing.

International striker Jorge Cadete was the first to go, on loan to Italy's Brescia for a season, with a permanent move a strong possibility. Dutch World Cup defender Stan Valckx then left to return to Holland, taking up an offer from PSV Eindhoven who desperately needed to strengthen their defence.

Meanwhile, two African internationals have moved to the Jose Alvalade. Moroccan centre-back Noureddine Naybet joined from Nantes shortly after the World Cup, and Nigeria's Emanuel Amunike signed from Egypt's Zamalek after becoming entangled in a two-way transfer tussle with MSV Duisburg.

Amunike made a winning contribution on his debut, setting up the opening goal in a 2-0 win over Beira-Mar to keep the Sporting show rolling along.

EDISON SOARES

Republic of Ireland

Jack eyes fringe benefits

JACK CHARLTON will get a rare opportunity to look at players on the fringes of the national squad on December 13 when The Republic meet England in a 'B' international at Highbury.

The Republic have a proud record of never losing at 'B' level, but then they have played only six games.

However, the record at Under-21 level under Maurice Setters is very poor, with just five wins in the past eight years. And it is unlikely to improve in the European Championship against England at St James' Park, Newcastle on November 15.

Roy Keane ***(below)*** is the favourite to take the FAI Player of the Year award at a function in Dublin prior to the Euro '96 game against Northern Ireland on November 16.

The Corkman, who seems certain to miss the Windsor Park clash against Northern Ireland on Novemer 16, has already won the Young, Under-21 and Under-25 awards in previous years. The other nominees in the senior category are Paul McGrath, a winner in 1990 and 1991, and his Aston Villa colleague Ray Houghton.

Keane is also nominated in the Under-25 category, but the award is likely to go to Liverpool's Phil Babb. Jason McAteer is the other Under-25 nominee. And Gary Kelly should be a unanimous choice in the Under-21 category; the other contestants are Alan Moore of Middlesbrough and Coventry's Willie Boland.

Seventeen of the 22 League clubs now have floodlights. And by the end of the season Limerick, Kilkenny City, Monaghan Town and Waterford United should also be lit up. That will leave just Shamrock Rovers in the dark. Rovers, the club who have won more cups and championships than any other club, lost their own ground at Milltown in the late 1980s and now rent the Royal Dublin Society Showgrounds in Ballsbridge.

Rovers are among the leading group again this season, but they are unable to pull away from Cork, Bohemians and Galway. Shelbourne, who went on a shopping spree during the summer, are struggling.

Derry City have signed Steven Rocastle, a younger brother of Chelsea's David. At the Brandywell Steve is known as Rocky II!

SEAN CREEDON

Austria

Konrad KO sparks row

NO OTHER event has caused such heated debates as the case of the felled goalkeeper.

Austria Salzburg's Otto Konrad was hit on the head by a plastic bottle during the Champions League tie in Milan, which the Austrians lost 3-0. He apparently suffered concussion and had to be substituted.

Salzburg protested to UEFA, who confirmed the goal tally, but docked Milan two points and punished them with a ground ban. UEFA rejected Milan's appeal but refused to award the points to the Austrians.

In the championship, FC Tirol (formerly Wacker) of Innsbruck and FK Austria Vienna have been setting the pace, while Tirol striker Sammy Sane (ex-Wattenscheid), took the individual honours for the month with a superb hat-trick within 22 minutes in the 5-1 win over Admira Wacker.

FC Austria team manager Egon Coordes appears to have made his peace with the directors and the media. Two unrated foreigners, Norwegian Mjelde and the Pole Kubita, have settled well in Vienna.

Sturm Graz, under coach Ivica Osim, are the youngest team in the First Division and climbed temporarily to the top after two wins over record champions Rapid.

The national team got off to a bad start in the European Championship qualifying stage, losing 2-1 at home to Northern Ireland.

Trouble was brewing well before the match when the talented but inconsistent playmaker Andi Herzog (Werder Bremen) was left out by team manager Herbert Prohaska. Herzog reacted furiously, saying "I shall never play for Austria again as long as Prohaska is manager." Apparently the team boss prefers Tirol's Peter Stoger, who he believes works harder on the pitch.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Otto Konrad . . . pain in the neck.

Faroe Islands

Hats off to the Faroes

JENS MARTIN KNUDSEN has been the first beneficiary of the professional approach advocated by Faroe Islands coach Allan Simonsen.

"My main job is to teach the players what full-time football is like, and above all to instil good habits," said the former European Player of the Year.

As far as goalkeeper Knudsen was concerned, that meant the end for the woolly pom-pom hat that had became the symbol of the Faroe Islands' perceived joke status in international competition. He had worn the hat since sustaining a head injury during a match in his teens. "I am very conscious that the hat undermined my image and my professionalism so now it's gone for good."

Already, results show that Knudsen's approach is paying dividends. Playing for his club side, Gota, against Trelleborgs in the UEFA Cup Knudsen managed to hold the Swedes, who went on to eliminate Blackburn Rovers, to a mere 4-2 victory. Then Knudsen inspired Gota to win their national championship. The title was clinched by a 1-1 draw with Klaksvig in which Knudsen was in outstanding form.

Unfortunately that form did his country no good in their 5-1 thrashing by Scotland in the European Championship qualifier. The goals rained past Knudsen but Simonsen remained untroubled: "I don't want defensive displays. I am trying to play a positive game and we will always try to score goals. In time we will learn to give away fewer to our opponents."

The result makes it clear, if it was ever in doubt, that Knudsen and the Faroes will not be starring at Euro '96 in England but their goalscoring hero, Jan Muller does not think the Scots will not be there either: "Both Greece and Russia have better technical skills and after playing, and scoring, against the Scots I really do not think they are good enough to qualify from our group."

GRAHAM HUNTER

Jens Martin Knudsen . . . hatless but not clueless.

Switzerland

Still on a roll

THE Swiss national team carried on where they left off in that glorious World Cup qualifying campaign with a brilliant start to their European Championship group programme.

The side, still managed by Englishman Rog Hodgson, defeated group favourites, Sweden, 4-2 in Bern after being 2-1 down.

Nothing illustrates the changing face of the Swiss national side better than the fact that the squad included a record eight players who now play abroad. While they enhance the prestige of the country abroad, they have brought additional problems for Hodgson when checking their form, or asking for release for preparations.

In the championship, Sion, last season's runners-up, are struggling and are now down in the relegation zone. They dismissed team manager Umberto Barberis, who lamented: "I hope that I am the only one to blame for the slump, and not my brave players."

Barberis, who had never been sacked before, paid for his mistakes, including the signing of two Germans, Marcus Marin and Steffen Karl, who failed to settle in the French-speaking part of the country.

Gates were up at the halfway stage of the qualifying phase. The average, 7,700 spectators a match, was 23 per cent more than last year and the highest figure since 1988.

The main reason for this rapid rise has been the two promoted clubs, FC Basel and St Gallen, who replaced two minnows, Kriens and Yverdon.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Luxembourg

Play-offs abandoned

THE much-criticised play-off system has been abandoned, to delight all round.

There will now be 22 games per season, with three teams promoted and three going down. There will also be a winter break.

National coach Paul Philipp was pleased with the 2-0 defeat against Byelorussia, despite losing for the 78th time. They had chances to end that run, and held out for 74 minutes.

Russian Michail Zaritiski and German Markus Krahen both scored hat-tricks as Avenir Beggin crushed Red Boys 6-0, but Grevenmacher stayed top of the National Division, unbeaten in six games, thanks to a 4-1 victory away at Petange.

Liechtenstein

Frick turns pro

MARIO FRICK has become the first Liechtenstein-born footballer to turn professional.

He signed a three-year deal with Swiss First Division club St Gallen. Others interesting Austrian and Swiss clubs include striker Patrick Marxer, midfielder Daniel Hassler and defenders Jurgen Ospelt and Heine Stocker.

The national team went down 4-0 in Dublin against the Republic of Ireland after conceding two goals in the first four minutes.

Plans are under way for a new national stadium, located on the current national ground in Vaduz, which is unfit for international matches.

TIM BRICE

Denmark

Strudal gets slice of action

MARK STRUDAL has finally emerged from too many years lost in the wilderness to become a key figure for Denmark in the defence of their European Championship crown.

The 26-year-old striker has played for no less than nine clubs in seven peripatetic years. During that time, his undoubted talent has too often been wasted in controversy.

In Denmark he has played for Roskilde, Hvidovre, Naestved, Vejle, Frem, FC Copenhagen and now Brondby. His current stay at Brondby, more than a year, has been his longest spell in one place, and has finally seen him mature.

Strudal scored one of the goals which restored morale in the Denmark team when they beat Belgium 3-1 in a vital European Championship qualifier recently. He gave Newcastle's elegant, much-vaunted defender Philippe Albert the runaround in front of a packed Parken crowd in Copenhagen, bringing plaudits all round.

Brian Laudrup summed up the mood, saying: "Denmark has waited years for a striker to dominate defences like that. It's just what we need.

"I've been playing with Mark Hateley at Rangers, and now I've found a Mark II for internationals."

Strudal has now scored three goals in his meagre seven internationals, and is desperate for a move abroad to capitalise on his current surge. It might also help his late development.

Off the field the teetotal, non-smoking star has gone back to his roots, living in the small fishing village of Bramsnaes, well away from the city lights.

Strudal is an old-fashioned type of rumbustious centre-forward, and Denmark have lacked that kind of physical presence in their forward line since the retirement of Preben Elkjaer, and it will be vital in their match away to bogey side Spain on November 16.

The other factor which has repaired faith in Denmark's hopes of qualifying for Euro '96 in England has been the resurgent form of Michael Laudrup at international level.

He had his finest game for years in the triumph against Belgium, and the move to Real Madrid from Barcelona appears to have paid off.

Brondby, inspired by Vilfort, Strudal and new Danish international tough-guy Jens Risager, are second in the Superliga behind Aab of Aalborg. After 12 rounds Aab were three points clear.

Last year's champions Silkeborg, along with big-money club FC Copenhagen have slumped, and the pair face the very real prospect of relegation by Christmas.

JIM HOLDEN

Mark Strudal . . . enjoying the limelight at Brondby.

Norway

Molde clinch Cup and promotion

MOLDE won promotion — and took the Norwegian Cup as well — when they beat fellow Second Division side Lyn Oslo 3-2 in the Cup Final.

A crowd of 24,600 at the Ullevaal Stadium witnessed some strange goals: two from goal-keeping mistakes, one pushed into the net by hand and a couple as a result of individual skill.

Kjetil Rekdal, scorer of a spectacular equaliser against England at Wembley a couple of years ago, and of Norway's only goal in the US World Cup, returned to Molde from Belgium's Lierse on loan this autumn for the end of the Norwegian season. He has since gone back to Lierse

After having struggled in mid-table in the first half of the season, Molde's form improved with Rekdal's introduction to the team, and after a very good run-in they won promotion, beat champions Rosenborg in the two-leg Cup semi-final, and then managed to overcome Lyn.

Rekdal orchestrated most Molde attacks from midfield to takes a lot of the credit. And the coach, Aage Hareide, finally got the triumph he has been working for since he finished his professional career in England with Norwich and Manchester City.

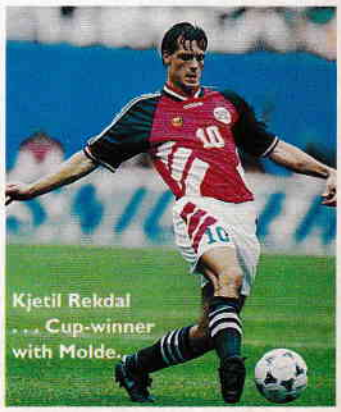
The Cup Final also marked the end of Ulrich Moller's career. After a short spell in Dutch football he has served Molde well through good and bad. And what better way to finish?

For Lyn, the defeat marked the end of a disappointing season. The board spent a lot on new players in order to win promotion, but had to settle for a mid-table position.

The domestic season is now over and the clubs are recruiting players for 1994-95.

Meanwhile the national side have important matches to come. Having beaten Byelorussia 1-0 (Frigurd scoring) and drawing 1-1 against Holland (Rekdal) at home, the two away matches against Byelorussia and Malta should add to the four points from the first two matches of European Championship qualifiers.

SIGURD ODEGAARD



Kjetil Rekdal . . . Cup-winner with Molde.

Sweden

Gothenburg secure title

IFK GOTHENBURG clinched the Swedish League title with a goal 15 minutes from time, on the final day of the season, away to rivals Malmo.

The defending champions, who needed a win to claim their 15th league title, looked like missing out until Mikael Martinsson struck the decisive goal in the 75th minute.

Orebro won 3-0 at Landskrona to finish runners-up. Gothenburg took the lead in the 21st minute through Stefan Lindqvist, but Malmo, playing in front of 25,500 partisan fans, equalised just three minutes later with a goal from Jorgen Pettersson.

Landskrona, who lost 3-0 to Orebro, and Hacken of Gothenburg were relegated. Vastra Frolunda and Hammarby will meet Umea and Kalmar in a play-off series to decide who plays in the First Division next year.

Niclas Kindvall, whose father Ove played in Holland for Feyenoord during the 1970s, was the season's top goalscorer with 23 goals.

PENTTI HIETANEN

Finland

Gladiators triumph

TPV TAMPERE have recorded one of the most unexpected championship victories in Finnish history.

The club, known as the "Gladiators", were formed in 1930, but have played only three seasons in Finland's top division.

In 1992, after winning promotion to the Premier League, TPV hired Pertti Lundell as their coach. He has a knack of producing successful teams without stars and has won praise for his man-management.

"My job is to prepare my players by giving them a specific idea of the game," Lundell says. "Everyone must shoulder responsibility. I don't want a team where there are four big guns and seven passengers. We win or lose as a team."

TPV have only one current Finnish international, midfielder Kim Suominen. Lundell made fine close-season signings in Brazilian striker Dionisio and midfielder Miika Juntunen, who were both rejected by last season's champions FC Jazz. Dionisio, assisted up-front by Jari Aaltonen, topped the league's scoring charts with 17 goals.

TPV did not have it easy in their final two games. They beat HJK Helsinki 3-2 after being 2-0 down, but still needed an away win over FF Jaro to beat off the challenge from MyPa. The match was level at 1-1 with only a few minutes left when Dionisio rose high to head in the winner.

● FINLAND's national coach, Tommy Lindholm, resigned after watching his team go down 4-0 in Greece. It was Finland's fifth consecutive defeat and, to make matters worse, the team have lost their two opening European qualifying matches without scoring.

During Lindholm's two-year spell Finland played 25 matches, won six, drew seven and lost 12. Jukka Ikalainen, the former international defender, will act as a caretaker coach until the FA announce a permanent choice at the end of the year.

PENTTI HIETANEN

Ukraine

Szabo steps in

UKRAINE suffered another severe blow in their Euro '96 qualifying campaign when they could only manage a goalless draw against Slovenia.

The national team stepped on to the international scene badly prepared and poorly organised and have now taken just one point from two home matches.

Oleg Bazilevich stepped down as national manager only a week after the team lost 2-0 to Lithuania in the first qualifying game. Several coaches were offered the job, but nobody wanted the responsibility.

Victor Bannikov, the president of the Ukraine Football Federation, took the only option open to him. He appointed Jozef Szabo, manager of Kiev Dynamo, as acting national coach until the end of the year.

In his first match in charge, Szabo gambled on experience. Among the players returned to the squad were Oleg Kuznetsov, who spent three years at Glasgow Rangers, and Alexei Mikhailichenko, who played 24 times for the Soviet Union.

Only two players, goalkeeper Tiyapushkin from Moscow Spartak and forward Konovalov from Dnipro, retained their positions in the team. The squad contained six players from the Kiev Dynamo team which defeated Spartak 3-1 in the Champions League.

It was probably the strongest Ukraine team available on the day. But it was an abysmal performance and Slovenia considered themselves unlucky not to win, especially as Sasho Udovich failed to convert a penalty in the the second half.

Szabo emerged grim-faced from the dressing room after the game to say: "It will take Ukraine some time to adjust after the first defeat and the re-building which will take place following Oleg Bazilevch's retirement."

The national team's disappointing performances, as well as poor organisation of the Ukraine championship, led the presidents of leading clubs, including Shakhtyor and Kiev Dynamo, to call a special meeting of the UFF Executive Committee to arrange the urgent foundation of a professional football league, independent referees' association and players' trade union.

OLEG ZADERNOVSKY

Mikhailichenko and Kuznetsov . . . back in the national side.

Russia

Igor's luck runs out

UNTIL Igor Kolyvanov appeared on the pitch 10 minutes into the second half, Russia were having a hard time trying to break San Marino's defence in their first European Championship qualifying game.

Kolyvanov needed only another 10 minutes to score and set up another goal, leading Russia to a 4-0 victory.

Oleg Romantsev now takes his team to play Scotland in Glasgow, but without Kolyvanov. Six minutes before the end of the San Marino game he was carried off with a knee injury, and will need six months to recover.

Just before joining Foggia two years ago Kolyvanov, then with Moscow Dynamo, became top scorer of the final USSR championship.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, Russian soccer has been dominated by Moscow Spartak but not by Spartak's strikers. In 1992 Velli Kasumov of Moscow Dynamo snatched the individual title with 16 goals to his credit. A year later the list was topped by Viktor Panchenko of Kamaz, with 21 goals.

This year Spartak won their third consecutive League title, leaving no change to rivals long before the end of the season. But no scoring stars again: the only two contestants for the top striker's crown came from Moscow's other clubs – Dynamo's Igor Simutenkov (20) and Lokomotiv's Oleg Garin (18).

The race had been headed by Spartak's Vladimir Beschastnykh for almost half the season, but he left for Werder Bremen last summer. The end of the season in Russia was marked by yet another loss. Yevgeni Kucherevski, former Dnepr coach and recently with Russia's junior team, disappeared from Moscow, only to surface in a small Ukrainian town, Nikolayev, a couple of days later.

The job of a low-rated local club coach there is evidently just a launching pad for Kucherevski, whose ambition is to become Ukraine's national manager.

In the meantime Pavel Sadyrin, Russia's unlucky World Cup coach, signed a three-year contract with Second Division Zenit of St Petersburg. Sadyrin's comeback will take place next season – 10 years after he took Zenit to the top of the Soviet League.

VICTOR GUSEV

Kolyvanov . . . on target for the national side.

Ukraine

Venglos misses Dubovsky

THE national team failed to build on the satisfactory goalless draw with the French in Bratislava when Jozsef Venglos took his team to Tel Aviv, despite an excellent start and a two-goal advantage from Rusnak (five minutes) and Moravcik (14).

Within half an hour there was, however, parity, Harazi getting one back after 23 minutes and Banon converting a penalty after 32. The introduction of Kosak and Zvara 15 minutes from time failed to nick a victory and the performance left little hope for even a point against Romania in Bucharest.

Venglos' problem is the lack of depth in his squad and when, once again, for whatever reason, Dubovsky does not play, resources are stretched to the limit. So far the Real Madrid striker has missed both Euro '96 ties.

In European cup competitions the early demise of a disappointing Inter has been more than compensated for by the progress of Slovan and, until Zaragoza visited Presov, by Tatran, who did so well to get past Dundee United.

Slovan's improvement in narrowly defeating Borussia Dortmund was to some extent paid for in the League where points have been dropped, notably in a goalless draw with an improving Spartak. The Trnava club only just avoided the drop and started badly under new coach, Karol Pecze. However, recently Pecze's mixture of veterans and youngsters have been winning well at home and drawing away.

BOB VAUGHAN

Rusnak . . . goal in Tel Aviv.

Bulgaria

Lok close on Levski

LEVSKI lead the League with a third of the Championship gone, but a modest 1-1 home draw with mid-table Montana meant their first points were dropped.

Second-placed Lok are only behind on goal average, though the seemingly reborn Railwaymen have scored less than half as many goals as Levski. Veteran Sirakov, with 12 goals, is the league's leading scorer in his third spell in top domestic football.

A renaissance of the country's oldest and most popular club, Slavia, sees the 'Red and Whites' third. Not so rosy is the bottom-half position of CSKA, with one of the worst defensive records. More encouraging was the 2-0 Euro '96 Group 7 victory over Georgia. However, it took an inspired substitution by manager Dimitar Penev, who replaced Borimov with Kostadinov after 55 minutes, to break the deadlock. The flying front man opened the scoring within moments of going on and added a second on the hour to give the Bulgarians second place in the group.

In the absence of bewigged World Cup skipper Mikhailov, Dimitar Popov got his chance in goal and was busier than expected.

BOB VAUGHAN

Czech Republic

Uhrin misses the point

DUSAN UHRIN may well rue the dropped point in Valletta, especially if Euro '96 Group 5 proves as close as the RCS' World Cup elimination by Belgium a year ago.

Malta were never in the hunt in the first encounter in Ostrava but the goalless draw and the 57th-minute dismissal of Novotny in Malta are going to make things extremely difficult.

The Dutch drawing in Oslo means that after two rounds the three countries from which the two qualifiers are almost certain to come are level on four points. Four yellow cards, in addition to Novotny getting a red, mean the Czechs will have to be careful in Holland or Kubik, Skuhravy, Suchoparek and Smejkal could miss the vital spring home ties against Byelorussia and the Dutch.

For champions Sparta, who did not reach the first round proper of the Champions Cup, the League is also proving an unexpected nightmare. Gates at the renovated Letna are down below 5,000, which reflects the team's fourth place with a third of the season played. Vladimir Borovicka has returned to second spot as assistant to new boss Jurgen Sundermann. The ex-technical director of Hertha Berlin was the surprise choice and perhaps with his arrival and that of much sought-after striker Lokvenc from Hradec Kralove, the worm has turned.

Viktoria Zizkov have however, to be caught. The upstarts from Prague have opened up a seven-point lead, with Slavia their nearest challengers. Fifth-placed Boby Brno remain the best supported club with an astonishing average of just under 20,000. South Moravian fans will be expecting a UEFA Cup placing but this may be beyond the side who have prospered this season as neighbours Drnovice have sunk to a relegation place.

Hoping for promotion late next spring will be Division Two leaders Uherske Hradiste and the second Brno club, LRK. There is a long way to go but Drnovice and Hradec Kralove are favourites for the drop.

BOB VAUGHAN

Romania

General targets Slovaks

'GENERAL' IORDANESCU and his troops survived the Wembley skirmish following their battle to take a point the previous Saturday from a real fight with the French for Euro '96 points in St Etienne. Next on the horizon are Jozef Venglos' Slovaks after their 2-2 draw in Tel Aviv.

The dust only settles temporarily before the encounter with Israel while the French enter the war zone of Azerbaijan. For Romania to remain joint favourites with France for the trip to England, Dumitrescu may have to show his Tottenham form.

While the defence was showing its mettle in France and the midfield impressive in the Wembley friendly, Iordanescu knows more movement and accuracy is needed up front to ensure qualification.

Domestic football meanwhile has to cope with another scandal. Dinamo, who have been trailing in the League, seem to be behind with their financial arrangements too. The Ministry of Defence formerly sponsored the club but the Finance Ministry does not and it has found the coffers to be some £1million in deficit!

Steaua, too, have had their problems. The veteran Lacatus, back in favour for 80 minutes at Wembley, was banned for three matches following an altercation in the Champions League match with Anderlecht. Without him the champions could only squeeze a 1-1 draw with Petrolul in Ploesti.

Whether a quarter-final place can still be obtained in the Champions Cup looks rather less likely for Steaua than being able to wrest the domestic crown from FC National and Rapid, who they have been trailing. The latter only just kept ahead, by a point, with a 4-3 win over Gloria after the home team had been two goals to the good in Bistrita.

BOB VAUGHAN

Hungary

Upset for Ujpest

LEADERS Ujpest TE-Novabau suffered their first defeat of the season, 2-0 at ETO in Gyor, and saw their lead at the top slip to two points.

Kispest-Honved and Ferencvaros, the country's only clubs to reach the second round of the European competitions, improved their domestic challenge, Kispest scoring three vital points in the 2-1 home win over fourth-placed Bekescaba to leave Dimitri Davidovics' team in second position.

The disappointment of defeats in Europe – Kispest losing 2-0 at home, after Janos Banfi had a penalty saved, to Bayer Leverkusen in the UEFA Cup and Ferencvaros being thrashed 6-0 in Oporto by Bobby Robson's Porto in the Cup-winners Cup – was assuaged by the effort of the national team in the scoreless draw against Germany.

After only a draw against Turkey in a European Championship qualifier, the first of Kalman Meszoly's third term in charge as manager, a committed, integrated team showed enough positiveness against a German team still in the throes of being reorganised after their comparative failure in the World Cup.

"Say goodbye to the numbness," a headline in *Nemzeti Sport*, the daily sports paper, was typical of the general mood of increased self-confidence.

Meszoly said the team's actual play, not just the result, gave him cause for satisfaction. Istvan Kozma, recalled for the Turkish match and retained for this game said: "The Hungarian team on this particular evening was very close together. Our team's fighting ability made us bold.

"I admit there were times in the game when our play was not so co-ordinated but the result was a big success because this was a match against a top football nation. For myself, I can only say that I will be trying my best to add to this success."

The investigation continues into allegations of bribery by Stadler FC, while the points in the Debrecen-Vasas match, called off with minutes remaining and scoreless after fighting broke out among the players, were awarded to the visitors and by a goal margin of 3-0.

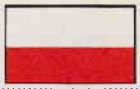
These were mighty important points because, even this early, things are tense at the bottom of the table. Imre Jenei, in charge at bottom team Parmalat (formerly Videoton), handed over to Karoly Szabo, citing health reasons, and Sopron took on Pal Csernai, manager of Bayern Munich in the 1980s.

Stadler continue to live in fear though their defence has been remarkably cool, conceding only 12 goals from the first 10 matches.

Csepel-Kordax have gathered 14 points from 11 games while scoring only eight goals and conceding a mere seven.

The FA deducted three points from ETO, because they used Bela Biro as a substitute in a 3-1 defeat by BVSC, after he had been sent off in a reserve game earlier that day.

BRIAN O'SULLIVAN



Poland

Apostel hangs on

NATIONAL team coach Henryk Apostel was bitterly criticised after defeat in the opening European Championship tie with Israel in Tel Aviv.

For the game against Azerbaijan he recalled four players from Western European clubs, Piotr Swierczewski (St Etienne), Marek Kozminski (Udinese), Andrzej Juskowiak (Sporting Lisbon) and Krzysztof Warzycha (Panathinaikos) while Sylwester Czereszewski, 23, of Stomil Olsztyn, made his debut. Poland won 1-0 with in-form Juskowiak scoring in the 45th minute.

Juskowiak said: "The atmosphere before the match was horrible. We felt as if we were baited."

"I know that many people wish me as bad as possible, but I won," Apostel added.

Apostel is still in charge but his team face a tough test against France in their next European qualifier.

GKS Katowice lost 1-0 to Pogon in Szczecin to end a 30-game unbeaten run in the league. Widzew Lodz top the table with 19 points, ahead of Legia Warsaw, last season's champions. Wladyslaw Stachurski, the coach of Widzew, led Legia to a semi-final of the Cup-winners Cup in 1991. Now he would like to build the equally strong team in Lodz in the image of Legia three years ago. Slawomir Majak, 25, of Zaglebie Lubin is the league top scorer with seven after 13 games.

Gornik Zabrze have loaned national team defender, Tomasz Waldoch, to Germany's VfL Bochum for £165,000 until the end of the season. Hutnik Krakow have signed striker, Zakari Lambo, from Niger. He scored three goals in his first six games.

The board of Polish FA met recently to discuss reform of Polish football following comments by the Minister of Sport, Stefan Paszezyk. After two days of discussions the officials promised a 12-14 team superleague in place of the present 18-team First Division – but no earlier than the 1996/97 season!

DARIUSZ KUROWSKI

Swierczewski . . . national recall.

Moldova

History in the making

THE MOLDAVAN national team recorded the most spectacular victory of their three-year history when they beat Wales 3-2 in the Republican Stadium in Kishinev in a 1996 European Championship qualifier.

Moldova, ranked 135th in the world by FIFA, destroyed the Welsh with spectacular goals from Sergei Belous, Sergei Secu and Valeri Pogorelov. A month before Moldova had beaten Georgia away (1-0) before 40,000 spectators. They now lead Group 7 with six points.

National manager Ion Karas, 44, didn't include his sole foreign-based player, defender Alexander Guzan from Romania's Rapid Bucharest because of an injury. Instead, Kasas assembled his team from players based with leading local clubs Zimbrul and Tiligul.

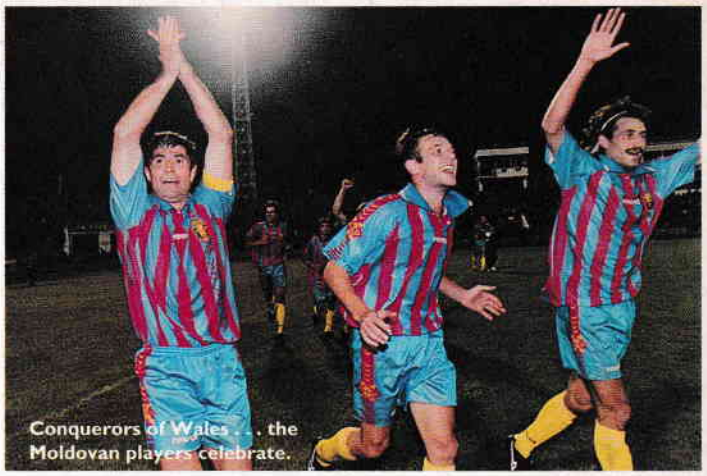
"Before the qualifying tournament's start we dreamed to be higher than a bottom place. I planned to take two points against Georgia and Wales both. Six months later our two matches have ended with fantastic results. But I think that our opponents underestimated us. The next matches against Bulgaria at Sofia [November 16] and Germany at home [December 14] will be severe examinations for our team," Karas said.

The win for Moldova sparked unprecedented celebrations, with the president of the Moldovan FA leaping from the stands and dancing a jig on the pitch.

Afterwards Welsh boss Mike Smith tried to put a brave face on defeat, saying it was no embarrassment and that if they played with such passion and poise in future Moldova would be a handful for any visiting side.

German assisstant national team coach Bernd Stober travelled to Moldova on the same plane as the Welsh side because there are almost no scheduled flights into the country yet. Afterwards he maintained a diplomatic front about the shock scoreline.

"Moldova proved they are a team who know how to play. They are technically very good, and their passing is excellent – if they are not put under pressure," said Stober.



Conquerors of Wales . . . the Moldovan players celebrate.

"Players like Jurgen Klinsmann won't like the conditions, all the insects and cockroaches in hotel rooms, any more than Wales did."

He expects no repeat win for Moldova, but one thing is for sure – they won't be ranked 135th in the world for too much longer.

● MOLDOVA had an inglorious soccer history while part of the Soviet Union. Nistru of Kishinev (now Zimbrul) were the best local club for years. They played 11 times in the Soviet Supreme League (last time in 1983); sixth place was their best position (in 1956). They recorded 312 Supreme League matches (69 wins, 84 draws and 159 defeats) with 312 goals for and 534 against.

Last year the Moldovan Football Federation took action to support football progress in Moldova. A tax for sponsors of the League clubs was lowered.

VLADIMIR KALINKOVICH & JIM HOLDEN

Greece

'Indifferent' Yekini kicked out

NIGERIAN Rashidi Yekini went to Olympiakos of Piraeus amid fanfares. A month later he left, with a sense of bitterness felt by himself, officials and supporters.

Yekini had scored only three goals in eight matches, and missed three key training sessions. Olympiakos had no option other than to release him, saying he "showed indifference in carrying out his duties."

Yekini 31, had signed a £800,000 two-year contract, but later claimed that a "negative mentality" existed among the players. He also said he had family problems back in Nigeria.

Olympiakos, meanwhile, have recruited Dutchman Thijs Libregts as coach. Libregts coached there for 54 days in 1987 and recently parted company with Feyenoord. His contract runs until June 1996 and is worth a reported £333,000.

The national team continued to show far better form than in the disastrous World Cup, and beat Finland 4-0 to stay unbeaten in the European Championship.

Some 30,000 jubilant spectators in Thessaloniki saw two goals by Nikos Mahlas and one each by Dimitris Markos and Daniel Batista.

Coach Costas Polychroniou used a young squad, and said: "I'm proud and pleased with the efforts of the players. The future looks good as long as they work hard."

Panathinaikos lead the First Division and are unbeaten in the first five matches. PAOK Salonika were second with 12 points, followed by Olympiakos and OFI Crete on 10.

Police in Nafplio say that the chairman of Third Division team Panafpliakos, stockbroker Vassilis Papatheodorou, has disappeared. Two billion drachmas have, too.

● Howard Kendall resigned as coach of First Division Xanthi, saying he was returning to England for family reasons. He has been linked with a move back to his former club Everton.

LOU ECONOMOPOULOS

Malta

Point taken

A GOALLESS draw against the Czech Republic brought Malta their first point in the European Championship qualifiers.

Clearly in search of a morale-boosting result aftre the 6-1 defeat by the Czechs in Ostrava barely a month before, the Maltese, who had David Cluett in stupendous form in goal, controlled a sloppy Czech side clearly lacking ideas.

Coach Ghedin showered praise on his team: "Our players were great this evening. The Czechs came here to win but we wanted to make up for our heavy defeat in Ostrava."

Meanwhile Hamrun Spartans took command of the Premier League with 12 points from the five games played so far. The form of strikers Andrew Bonello and Stefan Sultana has been crucial and Hamrun have also been strengthened by the arrival of Libyan international midfielder Abubaker Nel Mustafa Nekrema, signed from Medina, while Albanian international Edmond Lufi has dominated in defence.

Champions Hibernians are a point behind them and ready to pounce. Sliema dropped to third position after the 3-1 defeat by Hamrun. Poor Floriana find themselves in an uncomfortable position in the wrong half of the table.

DOMENICO AQUILINA

Albania

Tirana tops

TIRANA have made an excellent start in the championship, winning their first seven games.

Tirana's Indrid Fortuzi, top scorer with six goals, scored in the last minute to secure a 1-0 win over Flamurtari. Tirana's nearest rivals are Partizani, who remain unbeaten after seven matches.

Teuta have already lost touch with the leaders and they recently lost 3-2 to recently promoted Ilina. And two other big teams, Vllaznia and Dinamo, also have problems. The situation at the wrong end of the table is of particular interest this season because the number of the clubs in the First Division will be reduced from 16 to 14, with three clubs relegated.

GEZIM NUSHI

Turkey

Coaches in crisis

BESIKTAS had built up a three-point lead after the first 10 games of the Turkish championship programme, as well as reaching the second round of the Cup-winners Cup.

Three successive victories without a goal against atoned for two earlier defeats and put the club clear of Galatasaray, with Trabzonspor and Genclerbirligi a point further away.

There was a further bonus for coach Christoph Daum, when goalkeeper Raimond Aumann was at last able to take his place in the team, after breaking an ankle in a pre-season friendly.

Victory over AEK Athens was followed by a 2-2 home draw with Auxerre, who came back from two down. Trabzonspor coach Senol Gunes resigned after the UEFA Cup first leg tie at home to Aston Villa, only to return to the job in time for the return leg which was won in dramatic fashion on the away goals rule.

Galatasaray surprisingly lost away to Ankaragucu after taking the lead. Kalenga, from Zaire, scored a last-minute winner to provoke more criticism of Gala coach Reinhard Saftig, whose selections and tactics have not met with general approval.

Fenerbahce's Holger Osieck is under even more pressure, after a run of one win and two draws in six League games and a 9-1 aggregate thrashing by Cannes in the UEFA Cup.

HASAN CEMALI

FOOTBALL COACHES AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Andy Gray joins AFCAT!

AFCAT continues to provide an excellent vehicle for soccer people to meet, discuss and participate in an exchange of ideas and practices but most of all to share their interested in our National Game, indeed a truly International Game.

The Committee that continues to guide the Association includes Bob Wilson, Don Howe *(below with John Cartwright and Mike Kelly)* and Gordon Strachan. They have given us a broad base of experience to develop along the right lines.

It seems that they continue to serve us correctly as our membership is expanding in leaps and bounds. During the year they have been supplemented with the appointments of Gary Lineker (International), Paul Power (PFA) and Sue Lopez (Women's Soccer) to cover aspects of the game of Football as they have arisen.

We are delighted to advise you all that the Committee has been expanded further by the appointment of Sky Sports' Andy Gray *(right)* and we know his experience and great knowledge of the game will be of great bonus to the membership.

Having held regular regional sessions around the Country with top teachers and soccer coaches putting together excellent coaching days already, the Committee felt it important to plan forward right through to next year's Convention.

The timing of the 1995 Convention has been slightly affected by the International Tournament to be held in this country early in June, but please make a note of the dates. Remember last year's Convention was an enormous success, when coaches from around the World came to present some great coaching – many have expressed their interest to return already.

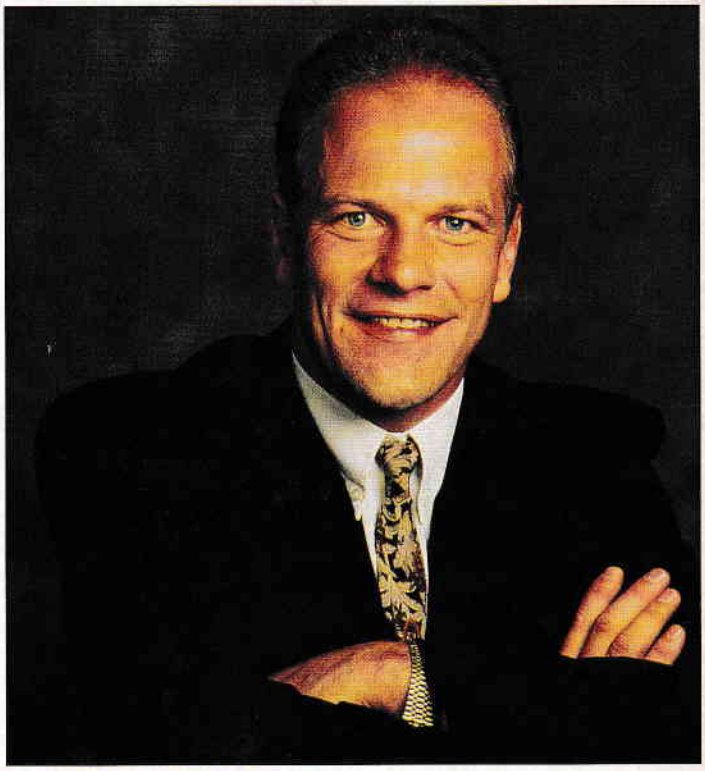
Membership of AFCAT this year includes an adidas embroidered rain jacket, the four coaching issues of 'Catalyst plus a discount on Regional days, the Convention in June 1995 and certain items of adidas sports kit (we promise the list is being prepared).

The Association always acts on the requests of its membership with suggestions for sessions being put forward by themselves and top names in the sport sought out to take the topic with subsequent discussions afterwards.

The outline plan for the next nine months is therefore to cover as much of the country as possible.

1994
November 26 at Blackburn Rovers with Ray Harford
December 11 in Durham with Craig Johnson

1995
January 15 in Bristol
February in Newcastle
March at locations in Scotland and Wales and hopefully Ireland
April at Aylesbury
June 22-25 1995 Convention in Milton Keynes



HOW TO JOIN THE AFCAT

AFCAT is not an elitist organisation, anyone involved in soccer coaching and development is welcome; we wish only to help teachers and coaches at all levels to enjoy the game in its true spirit. The camaraderie among its members is quite unique and in the true spirit of soccer. Please complete and return the form below:

NAME.....

AGE.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

TEL NO.....

Chest Size..... Waist Size..... Shoe Size .....

CURRENT INVOLVEMENT IN FOOTBALL.....

.....

Please return with SAE to: **Mr Rob Littleford, Administrator, AFCAT, Penmore House, Hasland Road, Hasland, Chesterfield, S41 OSJ.**
Make cheques payable to AFCAT

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BROOKING talkback

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters . . .

THIS is your chance to join the debates on soccer's big issues. Send you views to Trevor Brooking, the TV analyst and former England and West Ham player, and he will reply to a selection each month.

● Write to Trevor Brooking c/o *WORLD SOCCER*, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS. The comments are Trevor Brooking's opinions and do not necessarily reflect *WORLD SOCCER*'s views. He will only answer those letters published.

BAGS OF TROUBLE

TREVOR – Am I the only person to have noticed the increasing tendency of goalkeepers to place their 'accessory bags' within a ball's width of the inner edge of the goal-line? What would one of our many dim-witted referees do if the ball was trickling slowly over the goal-lineand was prevented from fully crossing it? It is beyond the intelligence of Premiership and Football League referees to advise goalkeepers to place their accessories well back from the goal-line?
LAWRENCE SUTTON, Orpington, Kent

I HAD NOT noticed goalkeepers' bags as a possible obstruction problem, but it is certainly a situation worth monitoring. However, I suspect the new interpretation of rules this season has demanded more immediate attention from referees and linesmen as they strive for the consistency that has frustrated so many players in these opening months.

PENALTY POINTS

TREVOR – The misguided alternative to penalties – the removal of players every 10 minutes after the end of time – would produce an even worse end to a game. I can visualise teams down to six-a-side or less, players continuously falling over with cramp and the referee stopping the game every other minute to allow a stretcher on. A much better idea would be to create a series of five three-a-side play-offs, where the attacking team kick off on the halfway line and have one minute to score against two defenders and the goalkeeper. The whole thing would be over in 15 to 20 minutes, with sudden death in the event of stalemate after five attempts each.
ANDY SENIOR, Great Yarmouth

I MUST ADMIRE your imagination, as you have managed to come up with yet another alternative for solving the great dilemma over penalty shoot-outs. It places the emphasis on a skill factor, but it will be quite a complex problem nominating the different sets of players who take part and your arguments concerning fitness could again apply here! The gradual replacement of players should not be dismissed completely as unacceptable, but would need to be experimented with in some junior tournament to see how it worked in practice.

CHEAP THRILLS

TREVOR – There has been a lot of fuss on this page over American response and reaction to the World Cup. Who cares whether they take favourably to football or not? It's their loss. The pulling power and worldwide popularity of football is proven. Let's leave the Americans to their fast version of rounders, the cheap thrills of men's netball, and gridiron 'where's the skill in that?' football.
RICHARD JAMES, Neasden, London

I UNDERSTAND YOUR frustration about whether the World Cup will launch soccer into a more prominent position in America, because it has been discussed from all angles. But don't dismiss the influence of their 'netball' and 'rounders' power men. Of course the rest of the World can survive without America expanding their soccer coverage, but there are a great number of youngsters over there who enjoy the game enormously, and want to see it grow.

CHANGE FOR FOR THE BETTER?

TREVOR – What do you think of these suggestions to improve the the game?
1. All free-kicks should be direct.
2. The defensive wall should be pushed back from 10 to 12 yards.
3. Apply the 10-yard rule for throw-ins.
GIRISH DABY, Streatham, London

I AM NOT keen on too many changes to the laws of the game. There can't be too much wrong with football as it is as popular as ever. Indirect free kicks are a way of penalising less harsh fouls, although the way free kicks are just touched to one side does strengthen your argument to make them all direct. Whether another two yards further back for a defensive wall would enable forwards to score easier is debatable. The 10-yard rule for throw-ins might encourage even more long throws, which I am not a great advocate of.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

TREVOR – Please can you explain the difference between the following football terms: manager, coach, trainer.
AUSTIN GOMEZ, Missouri, USA

IN DIFFERENT PLACES and different countries each term can have a different meaning, but to me, a trainer is normally the person who concentrates more on the physical fitness part of the players under his control, while a coach is the person who generally takes the daily training routines and imposes a certain style or formation that he wants the team to adopt. A manager is usually in overall charge of the side, and has final say on team selection, transfer activity, and also the definitive pattern of play he wants to install.

HELP!

Welcome to HELP!, a new regular feature intended to help readers settle arguments and find information not readily available elsewhere.

If you cannot find the answer to a specific soccer problem, write to HELP! at *WORLD SOCCER*, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS.

We will answer as many as we can. But please note that we cannot deal with inquiries over the phone.

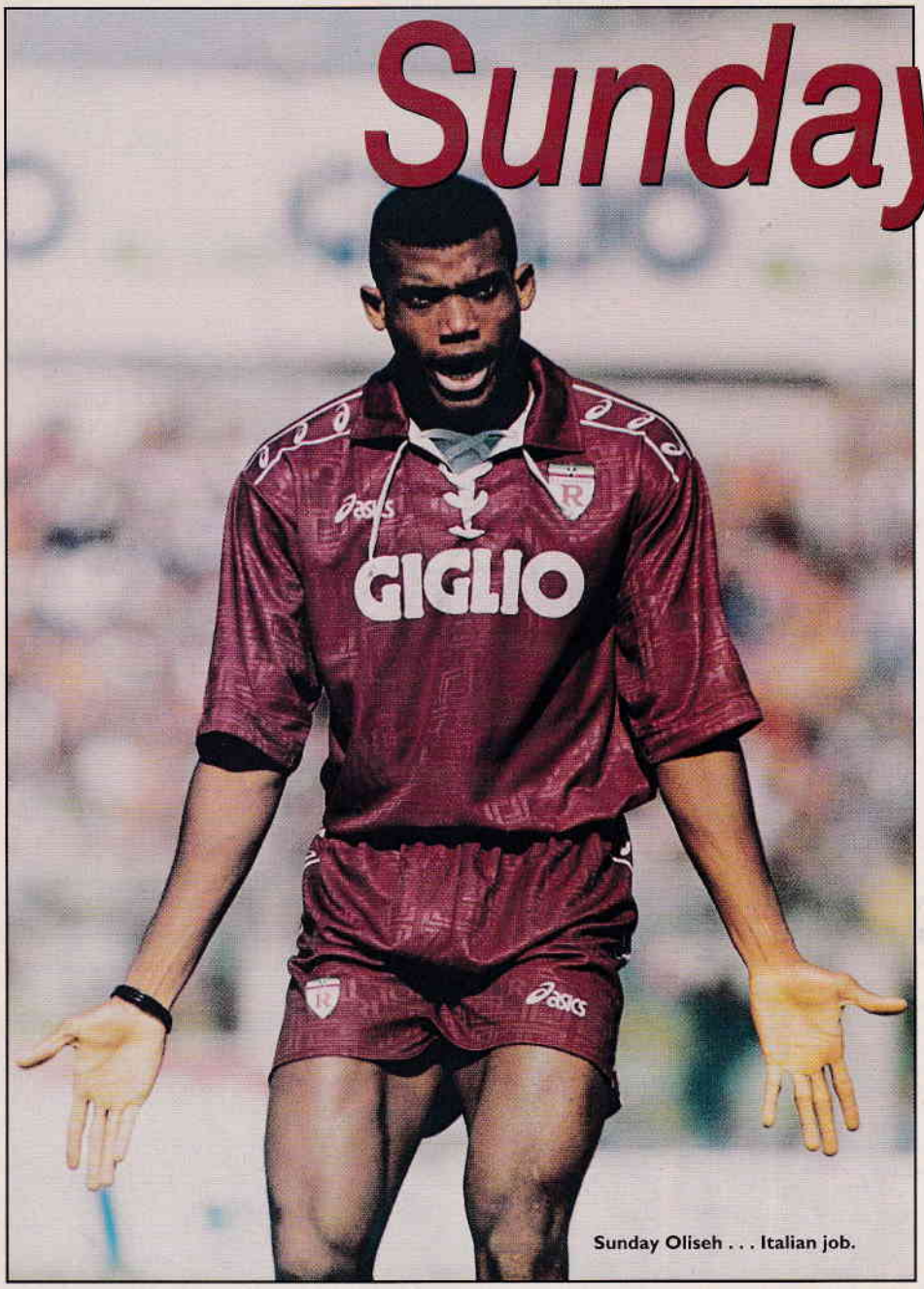
Q I have heard that there is a book available giving ALL the results of every FA Cup compeititon ever played. Is this true?
SAMUEL MASSEY, Blackburn, Lancashire.
A Yes. It's The Guinness Record of the FA Cup, by Mike Collett, which was published last year.

Q I am very interested in Greek football. How can I get information about past competitions and players?
STRATOS LEVADIAKOS, Hoboken, New Jersey, USA.
A Write to Federation Hellenique de Football, Leoforos Singrou 137, Athens 17121, Greece.

Q The British international championship used to be the oldest in the world, but what tournament has that distinction now that the 'home' countries no longer play each other?
MALCOLM MOFFAT Edinburgh, Scotland.
A The South American Championship, or Copa America, first played in 1910. The British Championship ran from 1884 to 1984.

Q When Spurs won the UEFA Cup Final in 1984, who was the Anderlecht player who missed the last penalty in the shootout?
MICHEL VANDERLINDEN, Brugge, Belgium.
A Gudjohnson, an Icelander, whose kick was saved by Spurs keeper Tony Parks.

Sunday best



Sunday Oliseh . . . Italian job.

SUNDAY OLISEH, the talented Nigerian midfielder, understandably takes great pride in being the first member of the 'Super Eagles' to play in Serie A.

"It is a challenge," the soft-spoken youngster says. "I'm very proud to be playing in Italy and I hope I won't disappoint anyone. I'd like to think I'm up to the task."

Oliseh's skills were first seen by a worldwide audience during the last African Nations Cup finals in Tunisia. To many he was Nigeria's most consistent player, despite Rashidi Yekini's prolific goal-scoring.

He had a hand in at least five of Nigeria's goals at Tunisia '94. He laid on the important first goal for Nigeria against Zaire in the quarter-final; and in the Final his cross created the second [and winning] goal scored by Emmanuel Amunike.

Oliseh played his first match for Nigeria last year in a Nations Cup qualifying match against Ethiopia. He had a very good debut and many were excited over this new find, plucked from Belgian club FC Liege.

Nigerian coach, Clemens Westerhof, enthused: "I wanted to surprise Nigerians by fielding this excellent player for his country for the first time. Oliseh is a strong player. He can link the defence with the attack and he is versatile."

Sunday Oliseh's versatility was seen most recently during the World Cup finals in the United States. As expected, he played in all Nigeria's matches and looked dangerous when coming forward, even against the likes of Argentina.

Ironically, however, back in Nigeria the hypercritical soccer fans blame Oliseh for Roberto Baggio's first goal in the second round match against Italy. Oliseh was the player Roberto Mussi went past before laying on the ball for Baggio to hit home. But Oliseh says: "I did very well against Italy. In fact my new club [Reggiana] congratulated me for my performance in that match. I didn't give Baggio much room to operate."

Oliseh also adds: "I know that Reggiana are not the strongest club in Serie A, but we can still do better. Some criticise the Belgian League [where he previously played] but they forget that players like Jean-Pierre Papin once developed their skills there. And Belgium has produced some outstanding players in recent years."

OMOSEYE BOLAJI

Ghana bounce back

GHANA are one of only three countries with 100 per cent records after two qualifiers in the battle for places at the 1996 African Nations Cup finals in Kenya.

Ghana, without leading players such as captain Abedi Pele , striker Anthony Yeboah and defender Tony Baffoe, scored nine goals in their two matches to make the most impressive of starts in Group 4.

The Black Stars had a disappointing tournament in Tunisia earlier this year, which led to the sacsking of coach Emmanuel Aggre-Fynn.

The major rift between the two stars of the side, Abedi Pele and the German-based Yeboah has been patched up, but neither figure in the plans of new Brazilian coach Ismail Kurtz. Instead, he is using Ghana's formidable junior talent as the backbone for a new-look national team.

The side is now captained by 20-year-old defender Isaac Asare, of Belgian champions Anderlecht, and the frontline headed by another 20-year-old from Anderlecht, Yaw Preko. Preko scored a hat-trick as Ghana thrashed Niger 5-1 away to go top of their group. Their first match brought them a 4-1 win at home to Sierra Leone, with another former junior star, Emmanuel Duah, among the goals.

Guinea, who were also in Tunisia earlier this year but did not progress past the first round, beat both Botswana and Angola to go top of Group 6.

South Africa have their giant striker Phil Masinga, now with Leeds United in England, to thank for their wins over Madagascar and Mauritius in Group 5.

Masinga scored both goals in the respective 1-0 wins, but now South Africa will lose the points from the fine away win in Antananarivo because of the withdrawal of the Madagascans from the competition. There are now just four teams left in the group. Seeded sides Gabon and Zambia still have to play.

Burkina Faso and Cameroon also have a 100 per cent record, but after just one match each. The Burkinabe shocked Morocco 2-1 in their Group 7 match while Cameroon, like Morocco playing their first post-USA '94 game, beat Zaire 1-0 with a 50-second goal by Georges Mouyeme, of French Second Division side Angers.

Namibia, playing in the Nations Cup for the first time, created a sensation with a 2-1 win over Mali in Group 6. The Malians, semi-finalists at the Nations Cup finals in Tunisia had a five-day journey south from Bamako, spending the night before the game at Luanda Airport in Angola. They faced a determined home team, who won with goals from Sylvester Goraseb and Ruben van Wyk.

Guinea Bissau also picked up a first-ever point in their 1-1 draw away against Mauritania, which resulted in the dismissal of Mauritania's coach Mohamed Salem Ould Harouna.

Things seem to be back on track for Egypt, who hammered Tanzania 5-1 in Cairo after a series of poor performances in pre-tournament friendlies.

MARK GLEESON

SOUTHERN AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

ORLANDO PIRATES, who have not won a championship since 1975, and Cape Town Spurs, who have never had their hands on the trophy, are the two teams left in the tussle for the title. Pirates had a one point advantage and a game in hand going into the final three fixtures.

At the other end of the table, Royal Tigers from Durban have already been relegated and look likely to be joined by Pretoria City.

Already promoted are African Wanderers and Jomo Cosmos, who went down in 1993 despite reaching the semi-finals of the African Cup-winners Cup.

LESOTHO

ARMY club Royal Lesotho Defence Force are the 1994 champions, while Matlama won the Cup. Arsenal, the League winners in 1993, will represent Lesotho in next year's CAF Cup.

NAMIBIA

LIVERPOOL (Group B) and Africa Stars (Group C) have already clinched their berths in the knock-out tournament that will determine this year's champions. Chiefs Santos and Orlando Pirates look likely to emerge from Group A.

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

ALI TAHANOUTI, president of JS Bordj Menaiel, was killed by gunmen in October, in the first reported killing of a soccer official in the on-going civil war. Early League-leaders are JS Kabylie, who recently signed veteran international Djamel Menad from Portugal. Menad also returned to the national team, coached by his former World Cup colleague Rabah Madjer.

EGYPT

ALFRED RIEDLE, the Austrian coach of Zamalek, led his team, current champions of the African Clubs Cup, to the semi-final of the competition. They drew 2-2 away with AS Sogara of Gabon in the quarter-final second leg, after the first leg had ended with a narrow 1-0 win. Oscar, their new Ghanaian striker, scored in both ties. El Masry and Al Ahly are the only teams left with 100 per cent records in the League.

MOROCCO

MOROCCANS are hoping that Brazilian Carlos Alberto Silva, currently coaching Guarani in his home country, will take over as national team coach from January. Olympic Casabalanca are narrow early leaders in the championship, on goal difference from COD Meknes and Wydad Casablanca. Defending champions Kawkab Marrakesh lie two points behind.

TUNISIA

CS SFAXIEN are three points clear in the championship, but second-placed Esperance have several games in hand after their involvement in African Champions Cup matches.

CENTRAL AFRICA

ZAIRE

CLUBS from Zaire have been banned from next year's African club competitions for what the CAF says is "persistent bad organisation". Teams travelling to Zaire almost always return with horror stories of the hotel and training facilities. Daring Club Motema Pembe, semi-finalists in this year's African Cup-winners Cup, beat AS Bantous 2-0 to win the Independence Cup and are also through to the final stages of the championship after victory in the Kinshasa League.

WEST AFRICA

CAMEROON

GOVERNMENT officials have fired three officials of the state-run *CRTV* radio station after the broadcast of an interview with World Cup goalkeeper Joseph-Antoine Bell. Bell blamed Cameroon's disappointing performance at USA '94 on the government delegation that travelled with the team.

GABON

AS SOGARA have won the championship for the third successive year, with a comfortable six-point margin over Mangasport from Moanda. Mangasport's coach, Alain da Costa Soares, is the new national coach.

GHANA

FORMER international Isaac Paha guided Accra giants Hearts of Oak to victory in the Cup final, beating Dwarfs of Cape Coast 2-1. They also came third in the championship. The League was won by Goldfields from Obuassi, who finished seven points clear of second-placed Ashanti Kotoko. It was Goldfields' first-ever championship victory. Mighty Royals from Prampram and Neoplan Star of Bekwai were both relegated. Austine Ahinful, now with Grasshopper in Switzerland, was the League's leading goalscorer.

GUINEA

ALI BADARA KEITA will remain coach of Guinea after Ukrainian coach Fomenko failed to take up his new position because his wife is ill. Captain Mohamed Sylla says he won't be turning out for the national team this season, saying he wants to concentrate on his career with Dutch club Willem II Tilburg. He is looking for a transfer to a bigger club.

IVORY COAST

CLUBS from both Ivory Coast and Ghana are likely to play in next year's African club tournaments after all. The CAF had banned teams from the two countries after rioting followed Ashanti Kotoko's win over ASEC Abidjan in the 1993 African Champions Cup semi-final.

MALI

NATIONAL team captain and goalkeeper Ousmane Farota has moved to Egypt, to play for Ismailia.

NIGERIA

IWUANYANWU NATIONALE, who lost two players in a plane crash in September, have been knocked out of the African Champions Cup. They were given a two-week extension on the hosting of their quarter-final second leg tie against Esperance of Tunisia. The match ended 1-1 and Esperance won 4-1 on aggregate. Nigeria have agreed to host the African Youth Championships, from January 24 to February 5, in place of Gabon.

SENEGAL

AFTER poor performances in 1993, club sides from Senegal will again not enter African cup competitions, authorities have decided.

EAST AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

BALBALO won the Cup final on penalties after a goalless draw with AS Ali-Sabieh.

SUDAN

A 1-0 WIN over arch-rivals El Merreikh, gave El Hilal another League championship title. They won by a comfortable seven points from El Merriekh and were undefeated in 22 matches with 19 wins.

MARK GLEESON

RESULTS

SOUTH AFRICAN RESULTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

AMAZULU 3 (Nzoyi 80, Dafel 85, Nzimande 89)
ROYAL TIGERS 0
MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Makgaledisa 89)
KAIZER CHIEFS 0
PRETORIA CITY 1 (Jacobus 1)
CAPE TOWN SPURS 2 (Alexander 23, Bartlett 56)
REAL ROVERS 0
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 0
UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Augustine 68)
WITS UNIVERSITY 0

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

CAPE TOWN SPURS 0
VAAL PROFESSIONS 0

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

KAIZER CHIEFS 2 (Nyirenda 29, Amukola 72)
AMAZULU 0

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

CHATSWORTH RANGERS 2 (Sakala 25, Davies 75)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Otiti 60)
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 6 (R Molefe 2, B Masinga, Kambule, Mudau, Masilela)
ROYAL TIGERS 2 (Maphumulo, Zwane)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 2 (Leepo 75, Makgaledisa 86)
HELLENIC 0
PRETORIA CITY 3 (Maake 32, Troughton 49 pen, Makhubela 85)
AMAZULU 1 (Nong 30)
QWAQWA STARS 0
ORLANDO PIRATES 0
REAL ROVERS 2 (Bapela 68, Sebola 84 pen)
UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Qosha 40)
WITBANK ACES 4 (Skosana 15, Shili 25, 80, Biyela 66)
D'ALBERTON CALLIES 2 (Radford 65, Niemach 89)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

D'ALBERTON CALLIES 3 (Napier 18, L. Donnelly 30 pen, Nxumalo 66)
ROYAL TIGERS 1 (T Madiehe 35)
HELLENIC 1 (Philander 83)
KAIZER CHIEFS 0

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

WITS UNIVERSITY 0
CAPE TOWN SPURS 0

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

AMAZULU 2 (Nzimande 19, 32)
REAL ROVERS 1 (Sebola 43 pen)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 3 (Kotoane 1, Antonio 20, Maboe 59)
WITBANK ACES 1 (Shili 35)
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 5 (Masilela 37, Thwala 44, R. Molefe 52, 66, 85)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Makhaye 9)
ORLANDO PIRATES 3 (Maponyane 50, Silent 56, Mkhalele 74)
PRETORIA CITY 1 (Makhubela 87)
UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Rula 1)
QWAQWA STARS 0
VAAL PROS 1 (Koloba 35)
CHATSWORTH RANGERS 1 (Ndlanya 75 pen)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

QWAQWA STARS 0
WITBANK ACES 0

TUESDY, SEPTEMBER 6

AMAZULU 2 (Chirwa, Ngcoya)
D'ALBERTON CALLIES 2 (Nxumalo, Duers)
ORLANDO PIRATES 1 (Buthelezi 22)
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Seakamela 44) *Points awarded to Pirates after protest*
ROYAL TIGERS 0
REAL ROVERS 4 (Sebola 13, 60, 72, Nkosi 56)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

CHATSWORTH RANGERS 0
MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Leepo 81)
PRETORIA CITY 1 (Makhubela 20)
UMTATA BUCKS 0
WITS UNIVERSITY 5 (Hannon 3, Mwakapuki, Mohlala)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 1 (Vries)
QWAQWA STARS 0
CAPE TOWN SPURS 1 (Lupiya 65)
WITBANK ACES 0
KAIZER CHIEFS 1 (Manyathi)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

CAPE TOWN SPURS 1 (Modise 5)
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 0

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

KAIZER CHIEFS 0
AMAZULU 0

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 0
ORLANDO PIRATES 1 (Fish 72)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 2 (Makgaledisa 38, 57)
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 2 (Koloba 34, Masilo 44)
REAL ROVERS 4 (Mthethwa 11, 73, Sibiya 30, Bapela 87)
HELLENIC 0
ROYAL TIGERS 0
CHATSWORTH RANGERS 3 (Jooma 12, Nhlapo 28, Ndlanya 70)
QWAQWA STARS 0
D'ALBERTON CALLIES 0
WITBANK ACES 2 (Skosana 30, 40)
UMTATA BUCKS 5 (Wm Mugeyi 12, Wd Mugeyi 48, 59, 88, Sokhela 60)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

PRETORIA CITY 0
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Sephardi 81)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

HELLENIC 1 (Jantjies 88)
UMTATA BUCKS 4 (NdZuzo 50, Augustine 51, Wilfred Mugeyi 68, 89)
ORLANDO PIRATES 1 (Moloi 10)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 2 (Seakamela 83, 87)
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 1 (Moosa 48)
WITBANK ACES 6 (Nxumalo 3, Peer 2, Shili)
ROYAL TIGERS 0

COCA-COLA CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

HELLENIC 4 (Young 25, 68, Vries og 31, Bester 83)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 1 (Vries 61)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Lepo 10)
ORLANDO PIRATES 0
QWAQWA STARS 4 (Ngaduane 2, Manana, Moloi)
PRETORIA CITY 1 (A. Mahlangu)
CAPE TOWN SPURS 2 (Modise 26, Bartlett 67)
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 0

SEMI-FINALS

MOROKA SWALLOWS 0
HELLENIC 0
Aet, Hellenic won 3-1 on pens
CAPE TOWN SPURS 1 (Shonhai 32)
QWAQWA STARS 2 (Ngaduane 28 pen, Lubombo 102). *Aet*

FINAL

HELLENIC 2 (Pietersen, Stober)
QWAQWA STARS 3 (Ngaduane, Tsotetsi 91)
Aet, Played at Springbok Park, Bloemfontein.

Spanish League

ALBACETE

COACH Benito FLORO
STADIUM Carlos Belmonte

GOALKEEPERS	
Juan BALAGUER	06.05.66
Fernando MARCOS	04.12.68
DEFENDERS	
COCO	01.07.69
SANTI	09.03.74
SOTERO	12.08.72
Esteve FRADERA	07.05.63
ALEJANDRO	17.06.64
MAGIN	06.01.70
Albert TOMAS	19.11.70
Francisco OLIETE	09.09.70
Juan MADRIGAL	14.12.74
MIDFIELDERS	
Josep SALA	24.04.64
Juan CHESA	01.02.70
Jose ZALAZAR (Uru)	26.10.63
Pedro CORDERO	17.08.68
Nenad BJELICA (Cro)	20.08.71
OSCAR	26.04.73
ALBERTO	27.09.74
Miguel BRAU	21.06.75
FORWARDS	
ANTONIO	20.05.65
Raul DOS SANTOS (Uru)	19.04.67
Vladan DIMITRIJEVIC (Serb)	07.04.73
Oscar DERTYCIA (Arg)	03.03.65
Fernando MORIENTES	05.04.76

ATHLETIC BILBAO

COACH Javier IRURETA
STADIUM San Mames

GOALKEEPERS	
Juan VALENCIA	18.09.71
KIKE	20.01.71
DEFENDERS	
Andoni LAKABEG	14.02.69
Genaro ANDRINUA	09.05.64
ASIER	27.10.66
Aitor LARRAZABAL	21.06.71
Oscar TABUENKA	21.04.71
Jose GALDAMES	15.06.70
Jon LAMBEA	15.08.73
Aitor KARANKA	18.09.73
INIGO Larrainzar	05.06.71
MIDFIELDERS	
Eduardo ESTIBARIZ	17.05.66
Carlos GARCIA	13.08.70
Josu URRUTIA	10.04.68
Ander GARITANO	26.02.69
Xabier ESKURZA	17.01.70
Julen GUERRERO	07.01.74
Ricardo MENDIGUREN	19.10.68
Angel LEKUMBERRI	21.01.70
FORWARDS	
Ernesto VALVERDE	09.02.64
Francisco LUKE	20.01.68
Jose ZIGANDA	01.10.66
Jose URIBARRENA	08.01.69
Gonzalo SUANCES	03.08.72

ATLETICO MADRID

COACH Pacho MATURANA
STADIUM Vicente Calderon

GOALKEEPERS	
ABEL	02.02.60
DIEGO	30.12.68
RICARDO	31.12.71
DEFENDERS	
TOMAS	09.08.60
Roberto SOLOZABAL	15.09.69
Juan LOPEZ	03.09.69
TONI	04.02.68
IVAN (Bra)	14.01.69
ESTEBAN	19.08.68
ALEJANDRO	10.09.70
Mariano AGUILAR	13.04.71
Francisoco FERREIRA	22.05.67
MIDFIELDERS	
Juan VIZCAINO	06.08.66
Jose CAMINERO	08.11.67
Jose SOLER	30.10.67
Serge-Alain MAGUY (IC)	20.10.70
Diego SIMEONE (Arg)	28.04.70
PIRRI	10.11.70
FORWARDS	
MANOLO	17.01.65
KIKO	26.04.72
Roman KOSECKI (Pol)	15.02.66
Manuel ALFARO	19.01.71
Miguel BENITEZ (Par)	19.05.70

BARCELONA

COACH Johan CRUYFF
STADIUM Nou Camp

GOALKEEPERS	
Julen LOPETEGUI	20.08.66
Carlos BUSQUETS	19.07.67
Jesus ANGOY	22.05.66
DEFENDERS	
Albert FERRER	06.06.70
Ronald KOEMAN (Hol)	21.03.63
ABELARDO	19.03.70
Miguel NADAL	28.07.66
SERGI	28.12.71
Delfi GELI	22.04.69
MIDFIELDERS	
EUSEBIO	13.04.64
Jose BAKERO	11.02.63
Guillermo AMOR	04.12.67
Josep GUARDIOLA	18.01.71
IVAN	16.12.71
Francisco SANCHEZ JARA	19.09.69
Gheorghe HAGI (Rom)	05.02.65
Goran VUCEVIC (Cro)	28.05.71
Jordi CRUYFF	09.02.74
FORWARDS	
Hristo STOICHKOV (Bul)	08.02.66
Juan GOIKOETXEA	21.10.65
ROMARIO (Bra)	29.01.66
Xavier ESCAICH	06.09.68
Aitor BEGUIRISTAIN	12.08.64

CELTA

COACH Carlos AIMAR
STADIUM Balaidos

GOALKEEPERS	
Francisco VILLANUEVA	27.07.65
Carlos CANO	17.12.69
DEFENDERS	
Francisco SALINAS	17.11.63
ALEJO	14.10.66
Rafael BERGES	21.01.71
Borja AGIRRETXU	25.06.68
MARIANO	19.09.70
Jose TARRAGA	15.04.71
Mikel ANTIA	13.02.73
MIDFIELDERS	
Jose GIL	09.10.60
VICENTE	30.04.60
Milorad RATKOVIC (Ser)	16.10.64
Francisco VILANOVA	17.09.68
CARLOS	01.11.71
LUISINHO (Bra)	17.03.65
MANEL	09.05.72
Jose TORIL	07.07.73
Juan SANROMAN	23.10.71
Srdjan BAJCETIC (Ser)	09.11.71
Zsolt LIMPERGER (Hun)	13.09.68
FORWARDS	
Vladimir GUDELJ (Bos-Her)	22.11.66
Sebastian LOSADA	03.09.67
SALVA	24.08.68
Juan SANCHEZ	15.05.72

Bebeto of La Coruna

COMPOSTELA

COACH Fernando SANTOS
STADIUM San Lazaro

GOALKEEPERS	
Ramon DOCOBO	15.09.62
IRU	27.07.68
Javier FALAGAN	04.10.69
DEFENDERS	
MODESTO I	21.01.65
Javier BELLIDO	03.01.66
Fernando TOCORNAL	20.06.61
GOYO	25.06.69
NACHO	03.02.67
Francisco VILLENA	17.08.66
TONO CASTRO	06.06.72
MODESTO II	09.06.65
MIDFIELDERS	
Jesus MOURE	26.08.61
VICTOR	28.06.67
FABIANO (Bra)	10.06.66
Alberto BODELON	25.09.68
TONI	04.05.68
OSCAR	05.01.66
Agustin ABADIA	15.04.62
Dragan SKOCIC (Cro)	03.09.68
FORWARDS	
LUCAS	14.03.59
Christopher OHEN (Nig)	14.10.70
JOSE	28.03.67
Juan PANIAGUA	20.03.66
Bent CHRISTENSEN (Den)	04.01.67

ESPANOL

COACH Jose Antonio CAMACHO
STADIUM Sarria

GOALKEEPERS	
TONI	12.10.70
RAUL	11.09.68
Antonio MORALES	29.03.67
DEFENDERS	
Cesar MENDIONDO	25.06.66
Victor TORRES MESTRE	31.12.70
Sebastian HERRERA (Den)	2.04.69
JESULE	26.05.73
Mauricio POCHETTINO (Arg)	02.03.72
JAIME	15.03.69
MIGUEL	19.02.70
MIDFIELDERS	
FRANCISCO	01.11.62
Branko BRNOVIC (Mont)	08.08.67
Dimitri KUZNETSOV (Rus)	28.08.65
Enrique AYUCAR	21.02.66
JAUME	17.11.70
ROBERTO	15.01.73
ARTEAGA	01.09.69
PACHETA	23.03.68
FORWARDS	
LLUIS	30.06.69
Florin RADUCIOIU (Rom)	17.03.70
Gregorio FONSECA	26.11.65
Jordi LARDIN	04.06.73
Velko IOTOV (Bul)	26.08.70
Angel VIZCAINO	04.09.70
JOSE MARIA	17.01.75

LA CORUNA

COACH Arsenio IGLESIAS
STADIUM Riazor

GOALKEEPERS	
Francisco LIANO	16.11.64
Juan CANALES	22.11.66
Agustin ELDUAYEN	04.08.64
DEFENDERS	
Luis LOPEZ REKARTE	26.03.62
Jose RIBERA	11.06.65
Miroslav DJUKIC (Ser)	19.02.66
NANDO	31.05.67
Ricardo SERNA	21.01.64
VORO	09.10.63
DONATO (Bra)	30.12.62
PACO	18.04.70
MIDFIELDERS	
Adolfo ALDANA	05.01.66
FRAN	14.07.69
JOSE RAMON	20.05.68
MAURO SILVA (Bra)	12.01.68
ALFREDO	13.10.67
RAMON	14.02.64
Francisco VILLARROYA	6.08.66
FORWARDS	
BEBETO (Bra)	16.02.64
CLAUDIO	10.04.64
JUANITO	08.12.69
Javier MANJARIN	31.12.69
Pedro RIESCO	25.10.69
Julio SALINAS	11.09.62

LOGRONES

COACH Blagoje PAUNOVIC
STADIUM Las Gaunas

GOALKEEPERS	
Ignacio VERGARA	26.01.62
ALEJANDRO	01.10.71
DEFENDERS	
Isidro VILLANOVA	11.11.65
Juan HERRERO	10.08.61
Jesus DULCE	22.03.71
Francisco ANTON	02.07.67
Juan MANDIA	11.01.67
Jose JUBERA	14.07.74
TONO MUR	26.08.72
VICTOR SEGURA	30.03.73
DAVID RUIZ	25.04.74
MIDFIELDERS	
Ignacio ERANA	03.06.65
OSCAR	09.05.72
JOSE IGNACIO	28.09.73
JUan VALLINA	10.09.70
Nebojsa GUDELJ	23.09.68
MICHEL	29.09.75
Fernando MARIN	27.11.71
Antonio ACOSTA	21.11.71
FORWARDS	
JUANMA	04.03.66
Dejan MARKOVIC (Ser)	26.05.73
Roberto MATUTE	26.09.72
Atila KASAS	21.09.68 (Ser)
Julia ESTEFAN (Fra)	31.08.72
RUBEN RUIZ	22.04.74

REAL BETIS

COACH Lorenzo SERRA
STADIUM Benito Villamarin

GOALKEEPERS	
Pedro JARO	22.02.63
Jose DIEZMA	22.09.68
DEFENDERS	
Hristo VIDAKOVIC (Bos)	05.01.69
Juan URENA	13.12.67
Luiz MARQUEZ	01.11.71
Rafael GORDILLO	24.02.57
Antonio MONREAL	04.04.69
CHIRRI	13.11.64
Tomas OLIAS	04.02.69
JOSETE	12.03.70
Juan MERINO	24.08.70
MIDFIELDERS	
Juan CANAS	17.04.72
Tabare RAMOS (Uru)	21.09.66
MAGICO DIAZ	03.02.68
ALEXIS	30.07.65
Roberto RIOS	08.10.71
Vlada STOSIC (Ser)	31.01.65
Jose MENENDEZ	29.12.63
JULIO SOLER	04.06.65
Andrei KOBELEV (Rus)	22.11.68
FORWARDS	
Angel CUELLAR	13.09.72
Daniel AQUINO (Arg)	09.06.65
Velli KASUMOV (Aze)	04.10.68
Juan SABAS	13.04.67

squads 1994-95

REAL MADRID

COACH Jorge VALDANO
STADIUM Bernabeu

GOALKEEPERS	
Franciso BUYO	13.01.58
Jose CANIZARES	18.02.69
Pedro CONTRERAS	07.01.7
DEFENDERS	
CHENDO	12.10.61
NANDO	30.10.67
Manuel SANCHIS	23.05.65
Mikel LASA	09.09.71
Rafael ALKORTA	16.09.68
Alberto MARCOS	15.02.74
QUIQUE	02.02.65
MIDFIELDERS	
Fernando HIERRO	23.03.68
MICHEL	23.03.63
Luis MILLA	12.03.66
Robert PROSINECKI (Cro)	12.01.69
Rafael MARTIN VAZQUEZ	25.09.65
Fernando REDONDO (Arg)	06.06.69
Michael LAUDRUP (Den)	15.06.64
FORWARDS	
Emilio BUTRAGUENO	22.07.63
Ivan ZAMORANO (Chi)	18.01.67
ALFONSO	26.09.72
Petr DUBOVSKY (Slovak)	07.05.72
Jose AMAVISCA	19.06.71
Ismael URZAIZ	07.10.71

REAL OVIEDO

COACH Radomir ANTIC
STADIUM Carlos Tartiere

GOALKEEPERS	
RAFA	25.10.70
Juan MORA	12.02.73
DEFENDERS	
Nikola JERKAN (Cro)	08.12.68
LUIS MANUEL	29.03.67
Antonio GORRIARAN	05.11.61
Antonio RIVAS	13.09.65
ANDRES	13.08.68
CRISTOBAL	21.08.67
FRAN	22.03.74
MIDFIELDERS	
BERTO	27.10.62
MANEL	07.01.71
PEDRO ALBERTO	11.06.69
Juan ANDRADES	30.01.66
ARMANDO	18.07.70
Slavisa JOKANOVIC (Yug)	16.08.68
Roberto SUAREZ	07.04.74
SIETES	18.02.74
Manuel SIMON	10.06.72
Daniel AMIEVA	24.03.76
FORWARDS	
Janko JANKOVIV (Cro)	14.01.63
CARLOS	25.08.61
Pablo MAQUEDA	18.01.71
OLI	02.04.72
EMILIO	28.01.74

REAL SOCIEDAD

COACH John TOSHACK
STADIUM Anoeta

GOALKEEPERS	
ALBERTO	20.05.69
Javier YUBERO	21.01.72
Jose BIURRUN	01.09.59
DEFENDERS	
Joaquin URIA	12.02.65
IMANOL	04.07.71
Inaqui ALABA	14.11.66
Jose PIKABEA	26.09.70
Alberto ALBISTEGUI	24.09.64
Jose LUMBRERAS	06.01.61
Miguel FUENTES	06.08.64
LOREN	07.10.66
Inaqui ZABALA	15.08.70
MIDFIELDERS	
Victor ALQUIZA	26.10.70
Javier GURUCETA	15.03.70
Andoni IMAZ	05.09.71
Luciano ITURRINO	04.11.63
Agustin ARANZABAL	15.03.73
Francisco DE PEDRO	04.08.73
Valeri KARPIN (Est)	02.02.69
FORWARDS	
Meho KODRO (Bos)	12.01.67
LUIS PEREZ	09.02.71
Yoni CUYAMI	17.12.71
LUIS GARCIA (Mex)	01.06.69
Inaqui IDIAQUEZ	08.11.73

REAL VALLADOLID

COACH Victor ESPARRAGO
STADIUM Jose Zorrilla

GOALKEEPERS	
Jose GONZALEZ	27.08.64
CESAR	02.09.71
Manuel CAROU	07.11.68
DEFENDERS	
Victor FERRERAS	19.11.72
Francisco CUARESMA	02.02.67
Luis GARRIDO	18.06.72
MIGUELO	16.02.69
RAMON	25.11.74
Albert ALBESA	06.03.65
Jose CIDONCHA	19.04.70
Santiago CUESTA	11.08.71
MIDFIELDERS	
Xabier GRACIA	01.05.70
Javier TORRES GOMEZ	09.01.70
INAKI	26.02.72
Ruben BARAJA	11.07.75
Gustavo MATOSAS (Uru)	27.05.67
Manuel CHUMILLA	16.01.69
Manuel HERRERO	28.06.70
Jose QUEVEDO	01.06.69
PABLO GOMEZ	21.05.70
FORWARDS	
ALBERTO	25.02.67
Jesus (CHUCHI) MACON	01.05.74
Juan QUERO	12.09.72
NILSON (Bra)	19.02.65

REAL ZARAGOZA

COACH Victor FERNANDEZ
STADIUM La Romareda

GOALKEEPERS	
Andoni CEDRUN	05.06.60
JUANMI	09.03.71
Jose BELMAN	16.06.71
DEFENDERS	
Alberto BELSUE	02.03.68
SERGI	06.10.67
Javier AGUADO	05.06.68
Jesus SOLANA	25.12.64
Fernando CACERES (Arg)	07.02.69
GELI	15.02.68
MIDFIELDERS	
Jose GAY	10.12.65
Inigo LIZARRALDE	06.08.66
Dario FRANCO (Arg)	17.01.69
GARCIA SANJUAN	22.08.71
NAYIM	05.11.66
Santiago ARAGON	03.04.68
Gustavo POYET (Uru)	15.11.67
OSCAR	09.03.66
FORWARDS	
Francisco HIGUERA	03.01.65
Miguel PARDEZA	08.02.65
Juan ESNAIDER (Arg)	05.03.73
Jose LORETO	10.02.71

Michael Laudrup of Real Madrid

SANTANDER

COACH Viente MIERA
STADIUM El Sardinero

GOALKEEPERS	
Jose CEBALLOS	07.09.69
Francisco PINILLOS	26.10.69
DEFENDERS	
Javier RONCAL	10.12.69
JUAN	24.02.73
Jesus M. MERINO	07.12.67
Juan TORRECILLA	05.04.64
Andrei ZYGMANTOVIC (Bye)	26.12.62
PABLO	26.04.69
Alfredo GRELAK (Arg)	20.06.70
Lluis CARRERAS	24.09.72
Cesar SALCEDA	07.06.69
MIDFIELDERS	
ESTEBAN TORRE	03.09.71
Alberto SOLAETA	14.10.70
QUIQUE SETIEN	27.09.58
LUIS	27.06.72
Dimitri POPOV (Rus)	27.02.67
David BILLABONA	05.12.69
TOMAS	03.03.63
EDU GARCIA	13.07.69
FORWARDS	
CHILI	08.08.68
Mutiu ADEPOJU (Nig)	22.12.70
Michel PINEDA	04.06.64
Dimitri RADCHENKO (Rus)	02.12.70
Jose PENA	05.08.72

SEVILLA

COACH Luis ARAGONES
STADIUM Sanchez Pizjuan

GOALKEEPERS	
Juan UNZUE	22.04.67
MONCHI	20.09.68
DEFENDERS	
DIEGO	20.04.60
Manuel JIMENEZ	21.01.64
Juan MARTAGON	22.10.67
Jose PRIETO	22.11.71
Alfonso CORTIJO	14.09.66
Pedro DEL CAMPO	04.04.68
PEDRO	18.04.68
JUANITO	10.05.65
MICHEL	15.05.74
MIDFIELDERS	
RAFA PAZ	02.08.65
MARCOS	17.09.68
Ricardo BANGO	18.09.68
Francisco PINEDA	03.11.71
Miguel SOLER	13.03.65
Gabriel MOYA	30.03.66
MOACIR (Bra)	23.03.70
FORWARDS	
Davor SUKER (Cro)	01.01.68
MONCHU	28.11.68
David LINDE	22.03.69
Luis TEVENET	08.05.74
Enrique ESTEBARANZ	06.10.65

SPORTING GIJON

COACH Mariano Garcia REMON
STADIUM El Molinon

GOALKEEPERS	
Juan ABLANEDO	02.09.63
RAMON	15.05.73
DEFENDERS	
ARTURO	08.06.69
Juan MUNIZ	02.11.68
PABLO	05.08.71
RAUL	31.08.68
MARCELINO	26.09.71
JOSE MANUEL	29.11.73
Jesus VELASCO	16.01.72
ROGELIO	23.09.72
DAVID	09.11.72
MIDFIELDERS	
TOMAS	25.11.70
Carlos OVIDIO	19.11.69
AVELINO	11.11.71
EMILIO	04.01.71
Marcel SABOU (Rom)	22.08.65
IvanMINER	03.06.71
Francisco CASTANO	29.12.72
Daniel SARIC (Cro)	04.08.72
Igor LEDIAKHOV (Rus)	22.05.68
FORWARDS	
Jose CELA	17.12.69
DANI DIAZ	03.08.73
Jose MORALES	02.08.73
PIER (Ita)	15.10.71
MARCOS VALES	05.04.75

TENERIFE

COACH Vicente CANTATORE
STADIUM Heliodoro Rodriguez

GOALKEEPERS	
Jose OCHOTORENA	16.01.61
Jose BULJUBASICH (Arg)	12.05.71
DEFENDERS	
Julio LLORENTE	14.06.66
TONI	17.03.68
ANTONIO MATA	25.08.68
CESAR GOMEZ	23.10.67
Juan AGUILERA	22.05.69
PAQUI	06.12.70
TONO	14.08.62
PERCY OLIVARES (Peru)	05.06.68
Luis RAMIS	25.07.70
MIDFIELDERS	
Jose G. DEL SOLAR (Peru)	17.11.67
CHANO	28.02.65
Ezequiel CASTILLO (Arg)	13.06.67
FELIPE	29.04.65
Angel VIVAR DORADO	12.02.74
LANDO	04.04.73
Ignacio CONTE	21.02.69
FORWARDS	
Diego LATORRE (Arg)	04.08.69
Juan PIZZI (Arg)	07.06.68
Antonio PINILLA	25.02.71
JUANELE	10.04.71
VICTOR	04.04.74

VALENCIA

COACH Carlos Alberto PARREIRA
STADIUM Luis Casanova

GOALKEEPERS	
Andoni ZUBIZARRETA	23.10.61
Jose SEMPERE	15.02.58
Jose MOLINA	08.08.70
DEFENDERS	
Francisco CAMARASA	27.09.67
Fernando GINER	31.12.64
Miodrag BELODEDICI (Rom)	20.05.64
Jose SERER	04.05.66
Jorge OTERO	08.03.69
JUAN CARLOS	19.01.65
David CLOTET	01.12.72
Enrique ROMERO	23.06.71
Javier NAVARRO	06.02.74
MIDFIELDERS	
ROBERTO	05.07.62
Carlos ARROYO	16.02.66
FERNANDO	11.09.65
Gaizka MENDIETA	27.03.74
Pedrag MIJATOVIC (Yug)	19.01.69
Antonio POYATOS	19.02.66
Vicente ENGONGA	20.10.69
Juan MAQUEDA	23.01.69
FORWARDS	
Luboslav PENEV (Bul)	31.08.66
ELOY	10.07.64
ALVARO	20.09.65
Jose GALVEZ	03.08.74
Oleg SALENKO (Rus)	25.10.69
OSCAR ADELANTADO	31.06.76

Tightrope Wa

MARK IRWIN talked to Everton's troubled manager Mike Walker as his team fought to stay in the FA Premiership. And then the axe fell . . .

THIS has been a pretty bad year for Mike Walker. You only start to realise just how bad when you realise that the highlight so far has been a home win against Wimbledon on the last day of the season.

Granted, that 3-2 victory was the result needed to keep Walker's Everton team in the Premiership. But little has improved at the club since that dramatic May afternoon and now Everton are rooted to the bottom of the table after their worst start in 36 years.

Everton won just six of 34 league and cup matches in 10 months under Walker, a record which forced the Everton board to finally relieve Walker of his duties on November 8, only one week after Everton's first win of the season.

Nothing went right for Walker from the day he left Norwich to take charge at Goodison Park in January. He arrived on a wave of optimism but soon knocked back the enthusiasm of the Everton supporters when he complained about the fitness and ability of the squad he had inherited from Howard Kendall.

Yet Everton were 11th in the table when Kendall left after being refused £1.5million to sign Dion Dublin from Manchester United. Walker spent £8million on new signings but had to wait until November for that elusive first win of the season, a 1-0 home victory over West Ham.

It was hardly surprising, then, that Walker's position was the subject of intense media speculation for some months. But he had received the unconditional support of new chairman Peter Johnson and was adamant that he would not waver in his bid to turn the situation around at a club who were League Champions little more than seven years ago.

"This club was on the floor when I took over and you don't change into championship contenders overnight. That just doesn't happen," Walker insisted. "We have been going downhill for a long time but Everton will be great again and I have 100 per cent confidence in my own ability to sort things out.

"I know what I am doing here and where I am going. I will get it right if I'm allowed to – unless someone thinks differently. That has happened to me before and if it happens again, there's nothing I can do about it."

Walker was referring to his shock dismissal as Colchester manager in November 1987 when his side were top of the old Fourth Division. So it was hardly surprising that he refused to take too much for granted.

He arrived at Everton in the middle of a boardroom power struggle which wasn't resolved in Johnson's favour until six months later. But having managed to keep the club in the Premiership (just) and with the financial backing of one of Britain's richest men, it was widely assumed that Walker would rapidly improve Everton's fortunes this season.

When Walker parted company with Everton there were few signs of an Everton revival. Early signings such as Anders Limpar and Brett Angell have been dreadful disappointments while later arrivals Daniel Amokachi, Vinny Samways and David Burrows promised much but have so far delivered little.

Walker scoured the international market but was rejected by Jurgen Klinsmann, Martin Dahlin and, farcically, Muller, who initially agreed to join Everton but then stormed out of the club after learning that he would be expected to pay his own income tax.

WALKER'S EVERTON TRANSFERS

IN

17.1.94 .....Brett Angell £500,000 from Southend
25.2.94 .....Gary Rowett £300,000 from Cambridge
24.3.94 .....Anders Limpar £1.6million from Arsenal
24.3.94 .....Joe Parkinson £250,000 from Bournemouth
1.8.94 .....Vinny Samways £2.2million from Spurs
29.8.94 .....Daniel Amokachi £3million from Bruges
6.9.94.....David Burrows Exchange + £100,000 from West Ham
10.94.....Duncan Ferguson (on loan from Rangers)
10.94.....Ian Durrant (on loan from Rangers)
Total £7.95MILLION

OUT

24.3.94 .....Peter Beagrie £1.1million to Man City
20.6.94 .....Preki £100,000 to Portsmouth
3.8.94 .....Mark Ward £300,000 to Birmingham
6.9.94 .....Tony Cottee Exchange to West Ham
Total £1.5MILLION

Walker's reputation was further reduced by the loan signings of Rangers duo Duncan Ferguson and Ian Durrant after it was reported that the deal was set up by Johnson without his manager's knowledge.

Duncan Ferguson . . . loan Ranger.

It was an allegation which Walker dismissed: "I know a lot of people were amused by our recent signings from Rangers. But they were my signings. It is my intention is to introduce real quality to the squad.

"Some of the things that have been said about me are scandalous, but I accept the pressure I am under and I'm still in there fighting.

"The spirit in the dressing-room is still great. The players, the chairman and myself are all pulling in the same direction and though our resilience is being tested I believe we are coping."

He was backed up by recent signing Burrows, who said: "I have heard a lot of stories about the supposed divisions in the dressing-room but they are simply not true. We are all totally behind the manager.

"He has got an enormous job on his hands here and we are all under pressure to get things right. But Mike Walker proved himself an excellent coach with Norwich and now the players must help him by starting to win again."

Ian Durrant . . . mission impossible?

But Walker admitted that he had been putting the emphasis on steel rather than style in the search for that elusive first win.

"The players have got to sweat blood and be prepared to scrap and battle. My principles have always been to play football but first you have to earn that right.

"It would seem one or two players at the moment are not prepared to do that and unless they do I will replace them with someone who is prepared to fight.

"We have played teams this season who are not such good football sides as us but who have beaten us because they compete and that is very frustrating to watch from the sidelines.

"We have to find some sort of consistency . . . and I don't mean consistently losing matches."

The Everton supporters are currently divided in their opinions of the club's 10th manager since the War. The majority supported Walker's attempts to bring success to a club who won the League (twice), FA Cup and European Cup-winners Cup under his predecessor. But there is a growing feeling that Walker was just the right man at the wrong time.

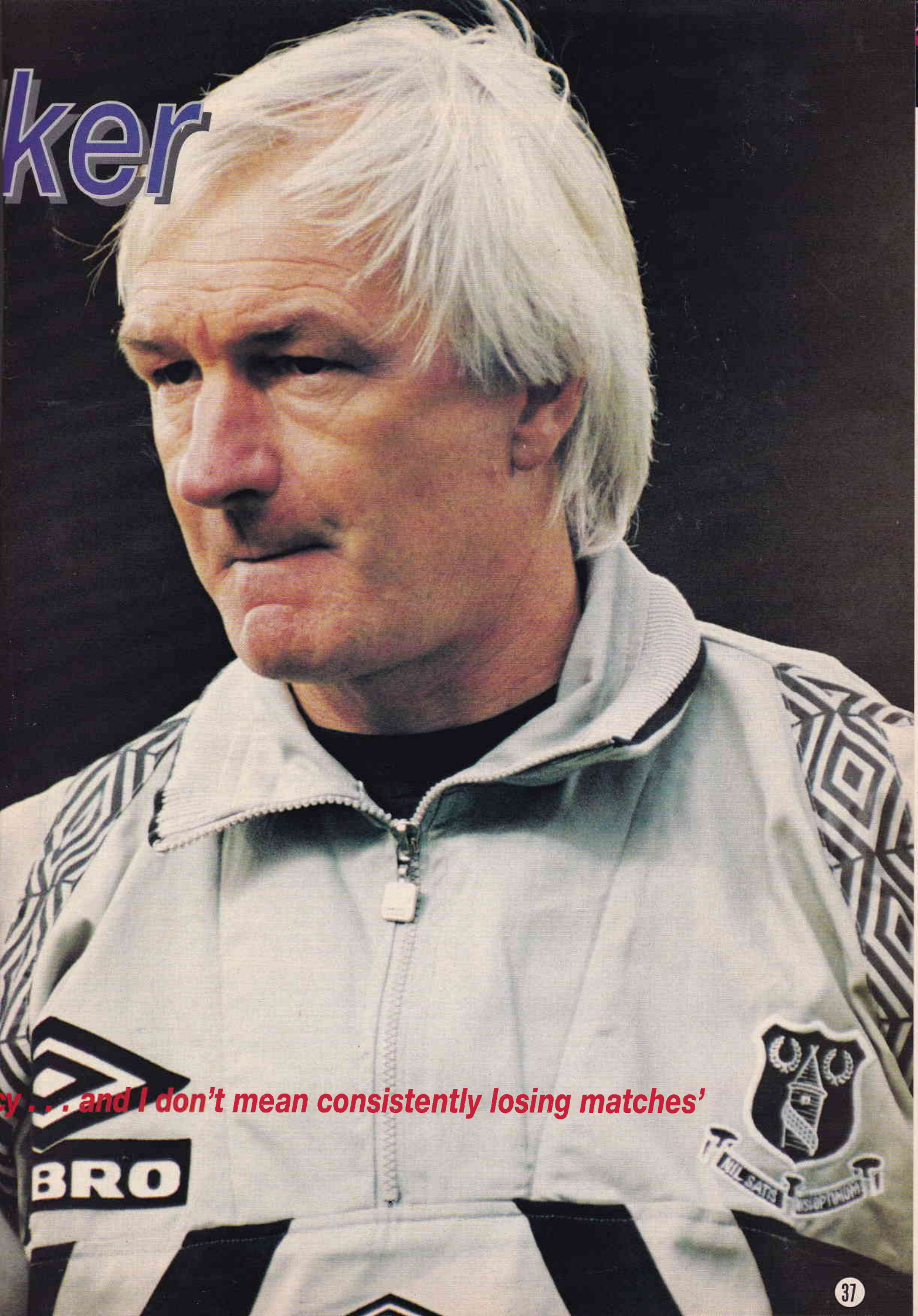
It has been suggested that relegation and a complete reorganisation away from the pressures of the Premiership could be the best thing that could happen to Everton right now. But Johnson has invested too much

'We have to find some sort of consist

of his personal fortune and the financial consequences of a year outside the Premiership are too horrific for a club of Everton's stature to allow that to happen.

"Having spent 40 years in the top division, I believe all supporters will agree it is imperative that their club maintains its position," said Johnson, explaining the club's decision to sack Walker. "It was decided that it would be irresponsible for the directors to let the situation continue and they believe a change to be beneficial for the club."

Quite simply, time ran out for Mike Walker. Now someone else will get the chance to reap the benefits of his groundwork.



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cy . . . and I don't mean consistently losing matches'

Culture shock

From South America to Suffolk – Adrian Paz and Mauricio Taricco are settling in well at Ipswich

LIKE their illustrious South American precedessors Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricardo Villa, Adrian Paz of Uruguay and Argentinian youngster Mauricio Taricco have taken the plunge into English football as a pair.

They hope their particular tango will rub off on FA Premiership strugglers Ipswich and change the team's fortunes before the serious fight against relegation begins.

"The championship has only just started. There's a long way to go, there are still 32 matches," said Paz, a Uruguayan international striker with 24 caps, after Ipswich's 10th Premiership match of the season and his third.

"I've played three matches for Ipswich and we played very well in two of them. We beat Manchester United and lost 2-1 to Sheffield Wednesday, but didn't deserve to lose and missed a penalty. We didn't play so well against Chelsea but they are a good team and in the Cup-winners Cup."

They hope, too, that Ipswich will tango with them.

"Going to fetch two South Americans means they are looking at other ways of playing," said Taricco, who made his debut as a right-back for the small Buenos Aires club Argentinos Juniors little more than a year ago and got married days before leaving home for a new niche in provincial Suffolk.

But both players are fully aware that the onus to adopt is on them.

Paz said: "I take this as a long term move, first to try to become accustomed to a game as tough as the English game. I think that doing well in English football, if I adapt to it I don't think I'll have any problem anywhere in the world."

He added that as a life experience he would learn a lot in England, "which is a country with a lot of history as well as a different lifestyle from most of the rest of the world."

Taricco says: "We're here, we're not in Argentina, so I have to adapt to them. If I have the ball I try to play my game, which is the Argentinian game. But when they have the ball I can't tell them [to play my way], it's their football, one has to respect that."

Both are fully aware there is plenty of hard work ahead and Taricco, a slightly-built player who recognises he needs to become physically stronger, is pleased he has started weight-training at Ipswich.

"You can play with the ball here, you have to get used to the strength, which is a fundamental factor. In Argentina the game is slower, there is more touch play, they make sure of holding the ball. Here there are a lot of long balls and we're not used to that and it's physically difficult for us to go up for the ball. You can jump but the other guy is taller and on top of that he's used to it."

Paz pointed out that his slow start has been due to a five-week unplanned 'holiday' – mostly in England though also back home picking up his wife Adriana and daughter Carolina – due to delays in both his work permit and international clearance and an injury on his debut, a surprise 3-2 win over champions Manchester United on September 24.

The pair jumped at the chance to play in England.

"I was interested in coming to Europe, so I didn't think twice about it. I said 'vamos'," said Taricco, who not being an international qualified for a work permit through his dual nationality. He obtained Italian citizenship through his father, who emigrated to Argentina as a young man.

Taricco received an extra, indirect nudge from Ricky Villa. "The Argentinos Junior goalkeeper Ruben Cousillas is a good friend of Villa's and he says Ricardo is always saying good things about his time in England."

Paz landed up in Ipswich following a recommendation from former manager Bobby Robson, England's 1986 and 1990 World Cup boss, who would have signed the Uruguayan striker for FC Porto of Portugal if the timing had been right near the end of last season.

All that Paz . . . Ipswich have high hopes for their new Uruguayan striker.

PRO-FILE
MAURICIO TARICCO
IPSWICH
Born Buenos Aires
Age 21
Previous clubs Argentinos Juniors (Argentina)
International caps None
Married to Evangelina, no children

Estudiantes de La Plata, the Argentinian team Paz was playing for, were not ready to part with one of their best players. They needed Paz to see out the championship which ended in August with relegation, despite his efforts with some 10 goals in 20 games.

"Estudiantes did not want to sell me at that moment because it was a tough time during which the club were very happy with me," he said.

He nearly went to Atlas of Mexico and there was also the possibility of a move to Germany.

Paz and Taricco are expecting to move into houses in Ipswich next door to each other, as Ardiles and Villa did before them in Hertfordshire.

They get on well, after meeting for the first time, although their paths had crossed with Taricco twice marking Paz in matches in Argentina.

"It's much better that we should be two," said Paz. "Being in a country so far away, so different, when you need to talk to someone, be with someone who knows your rhythm of life.

"We're fine, we complement each other, we are happy to be together."

That an English league club should take on a raw youngster like Taricco from outside the United KIngdom is rare indeed, but the experienced Paz explained: "When they [Ipswich] went to see him, they saw he had a great future and thought that in a couple of years, with good training and adapting well to English football he could serve them well."

PRO-FILE
ADRIAN PAZ
IPSWICH & URUGUAY
Born Montevideo, Uruguay
Age 26
Previous clubs Bella Vista (Uruguay), Velez Sarsfield (Argentina *loan*), Bella Vista, Penarol, Uruguay, Estudiantes de La Plata (Argentina *loan*), Penarol
International debut November 1992 v Brazil
International caps 24
International goals 8
Married to Adriana, one daughter, Carolina (aged four)

Taricco need look no further than Paz as an example for reaching the higher echelons of the world game.

Paz, after winning Uruguayan honours with Penarol, made his international debut against Brazil in a friendly in November 1992. In the space of less than a year he won 24 caps, including Uruguay's 2-0 defeat to Brazil that put paid to their dream of a place in the 1994 finals.

He believes if he does well in England, he could receive a call-up for next year's Copa America in his home country. Meanwhile, Taricco aims to one day impress Daniel Passarella to win a place in the Argentina team.

PHIL McVIE

Forest on fire . . . Lars Bohinen's goals have played a vital part in Nottingham Forest's impressive return to the Premiership.

Bohinen Rhapsody

THE ANGLO-DUTCH partnership of Stan Collymore and Bryan Roy has captured most of the headlines as Nottingham Forest have skilfully negotiated their return to the Premiership.

Collymore's refreshing directness and Roy's silken touches have provided a cutting edge for a club determined to show there is life after Brian Clough.

But in the new side that manager Frank Clark has built, the creative and visionary talents of Norwegian international Lars Bohinen are playing a significant part. Bohinen, a £450,000 signing from Lillestrom a year ago, has more than justified the gamble he took in furthering his career in England.

He admits: "To be honest I wasn't all that taken with the English game but I liked what I saw of Forest. I guessed it would be good for my career to move to Nottingham, and it's worked out fine for me.

"When I used to look at English football I didn't see many teams who liked to pass the ball, but I feel that over the past couple of years that has changed a lot.

"The only thing that concerned me when I moved to Forest was their own style of play and I had talks with two other Norwegians who came to the City Ground before me.

"Both Elnar Aas and Kjetll Osvold were very convincing in their praise for Forest's style of play and the kind of club it was, and when the opportunity to move arose, I was happy to accept the challenge.

"There was a lot of speculation regarding me and other countries, but I need new impulses and I felt that it was right to move to Forest.

"Since then the English game has gone from strength to strength while other countries might be struggling a little.

"The object of the game should be to score – and happily that kind of attitude is coming through more and more in England. Of course teams are still disciplined and committed but the skill factor is very important these days.

'We are up there with the best clubs in the country'

"The influx of foreign players has clearly added to the game and I can see a period ahead when the English game at domestic level will continue to flourish."

Bohinen adds: "Clubs have now made it financially possible to attract top European players. Jurgen Klinsmann moved to Tottenham, and when you think that Bryan Roy was lured away from Italian football to come and play for Forest, you realise the strides that have been made in England.

"A few years ago it would have been almost unthinkable for an English club to persuade a player to move from Italy."

With Roy teaming up with Collymore, Forest are hopeful they have the scoring potential to maintain their place among the Premiership pacesetters. Bohinen, 28, warns: "I hope people don't expect too much too soon. We are up there with the best clubs in the country but there is a long road ahead.

"Clubs such as Manchester United have the depth of players that you need to win trophies. Our testing time has yet to come."

But Bohinen at least knows that he has passed his own individual challenge of fitting into the physical demands of English football.

His technical ability has never been in doubt and he overcame the disappointment of being left out of the side earlier this season to show what his all-round game has to offer.

He overshadowed Klinsmann, Dumitrescu and Popescu when Forest won 4-1 at Tottenham, and scored a goal that would have done credit to the most gifted European or South American.

With other superb goals against Sheffield Wednesday and Wimbledon and a flair not readily recognised in his fellow countrymen, Bohinen has wasted no time in giving Norway an eye-catching presence in the Premiership.

JOHN LAWSON

FA PREMIERSHIP FOREIGN LEGION

Player	*Club*	*Country*
Philippe ALBERT	Newcastle	Belgium
Daniel AMOKACHI	Everton	Nigeria
Henning BERG	Blackburn	Norway
Stig-Inge BJORNEBYE	Liverpool	Norway
Jeroen BOERE*	West Ham	Holland
Lars BOHINEN	Nottm Forest	Norway
Mark BOSNICH	Aston Villa	Australia
Eric CANTONA	Man Utd	France
Ilie DUMITRESCU	Tottenham	Romania
Sieb DYKSTRA	QPR	Holland
Ronnie EKELUND	Southampton	Denmark
Efan EKOKU	Wimbledon	Nigeria
Ian FEUER	West Ham	United States
Craig FORREST	Ipswich	Canada
Bruce GROBBELAAR	Southampton	Zimbabwe
Bontcho GUENTCHEV	Ipswich	Bulgaria
Alf-Inge HAALAND	Nottm Forest	Norway
Marc HOTTIGER	Newcastle	Switzerland
Kare INGEBRIGTSEN*	Man City	Norway
Klas INGESSON	Sheff Weds	Sweden
John JENSEN	Arsenal	Denmark
Erland JOHNSEN	Chelsea	Norway
Cobi JONES	Coventry	United States
Andrei KANCHELSKIS	Man Utd	Russia
Jason KEARTON	Everton	Australia
Dmitri KHARIN	Chelsea	Russia
Jacob KJELDBJERG	Chelsea	Denmark
Jurgen KLINSMANN	Tottenham	Germany
Nii LAMPTEY	Aston Villa	Ghana
Oyvind LEONHARDSEN*	Wimbledon	Norway
Anders LIMPAR	Everton	Sweden
Pal LYDERSEN*	Arsenal	Norway
Philomen MASINGA	Leeds	South Africa
Ludek MIKLOSKO	West Ham	Czech Rep
Jan MOLBY	Liverpool	Denmark
Ken MONKOU	Southampton	Holland
Peter NDLOVU	Coventry	Zimbabwe
Nicky PAPAVASILIOU	Newcastle	Cyprus
Adrian PAZ	Ipswich	Uruguay
Dan PETRESCU	Sheff Weds	Romania
Gheorghe POPESCU	Tottenham	Romania
Lucas RADEBE	Leeds	South Africa
Rony ROSENTHAL	Totenham	Israel
Uwe ROSLER	Man City	Germany
Bryan ROY	Nottm Forest	Holland
Peter SCHMEICHEL	Man Utd	Denmark
Stefan SCHWARZ	Arsenal	Sweden
Hans SEGERS	Wimbledon	Holland
Robbie SLATER	Blackburn	Australia
Pavel SRNICEK	Newcastle	Czech Rep
Michael STENSGAARD	Liverpool	Denmark
Frank STRANDLI*	Leeds Utd	Norway
Mauricio TARICCO	Ipswich	Argentina
Claus THOMSEN	Ipswich	Denmark
Erik THORSTVEDT	Tottenham	Norway
Michel VONK	Man City	Holland
Roy WEGERLE	Coventry	United States
Frank YALLOP	Ipswich	Canada
Dwight YORKE	Aston Villa	Trinidad/Tobago

* = *currently on loan*

London lottery

WHILE the rest of the country gears itself up for the new National Lottery, London has been staging one of its own, with Tottenham and Queen's Park Rangers the chief gamblers.

Tottenham, as expected, ditched manager Osvaldo Ardiles after all the early-season promise failed to keep the side in the top half of the table.

A 3-0 defeat in the third round of the Coca-Cola [League] Cup at Notts County – who were bottom of the First Division – signalled the end for Ardiles. He and several senior players were summoned to chairman Alan Sugar's mansion a few days after the game and Ardiles was told he was out.

The question now is, who will take over? Several big names were linked to the job, but the answer to Tottenham's prayers seems much closer to home, just up the M1 in fact, in Luton. There, David Pleat has been managing little Luton Town, and building a pretty useful side in the process.

Pleat, of course, has been in the Tottenham hot-seat before. He became Spurs manager in 1986, led them to the FA Cup Final in 1987, and to third place in the League, their best finish since 1963. Later that same year, however, he was ousted by then-chairman Irving Scholar, to make way for the return of Terry Venables.

Now, in Tottenham's post-Scholar and Venables era, Pleat is seen as the man to restore the club to normality, though his first task will be to keep Spurs in the FA Premiership.

Sugar will have to find around £300,000 in compensation to prise Pleat away from Luton, whose chairman, David Kohler, is resigned to losing Pleat if Spurs want him enough.

Only time will tell if Pleat – who looks set to be appointed while *WORLD SOCCER* is at the printers – can work his magic at Spurs second time around. Others have, in recent years, found that it is not easy to return to a club, and that it is even harder to achieve the same success.

This seems to have passed by QPR, who have got themselves in to a right old mess by trying to bring back one of their former stars, Rodney Marsh.

Things have not being going well for Rangers this season: they have slid down the table, fans have been calling for the resignation of owner Richard Thompson, and they were knocked out of the Coca-Cola Cup at home by Manchester City.

Thompson, however, decided that Marsh, a former QPR great who has spent much of the recent past at now-defunct Tampa Bay Rowdies in the US, was the man to solve the crisis.

Thus, Thompson asked Marsh to join the club as chief executive, with full responsibility for club affairs including transfers, but with manager Gerry Francis still in control of the team.

A difficult situation was made virtually impossible when it was revealed that Thompson had made his approach WITHOUT informing Francis.

Not surprisingly, Francis was furious and stormed out of Loftus Road threatening to quit when Marsh appeared in the directors' box for the game against Liverpool.

Francis then offered his resignation, but after an emergency meeting, was persuaded to change his mind and stay, leaving Marsh in limbo.

The whole business has yet to be resolved, but it now looks as if Francis will stay and that Marsh will not be returning. Certainly Francis has the backing of his players and the majority of the fans, and this may have persuaded the board to reconsider.

Either way, it has left QPR in a mess from which they will be lucky to escape intact. Senior players such as England's Les Ferdinand and David Bardsley have already signalled that they would leave if Francis goes. If that happens, it would take more than Rodney Marsh to turn the club around.

No such problems for the other big clubs in north and west London: Arsenal and Chelsea. Both went through to the quarter-finals of the Cup-winners Cup.

Arsenal were taken all the way by Brondby, but a 2-1 win in the away leg gave the holders a significant edge they were never likely to relinquish. And when Ian Wright scored – for a club record-breaking 11th match in a row – Arsenal were on their way.

Chelsea had a much harder task following the 0-0 home draw with FK Austria. But a goal by John Spencer in Vienna gave Chelsea the advantage, and a 1-1 draw was enough for them to go through on away goals.

The rest of England's European contenders, however, came spectacularly unstuck. Manchester United, in the Champions League, crashed 4-0 to Barcelona in the Nou Camp in what manager Alex Ferguson described as a "humiliating slaughter".

Similar woe in the UEFA Cup, too, with Newcastle and Aston Villa both going out on the away goals rule.

Newcastle were perhaps undone by their lack of European experience. Three-nil up at home to Atheltic Bilbao in the first leg, the tie should have been dead and buried. But United let Bilbao back in to the game with two crucial away goals. And when Jose Ciganda scored the only goal at the San Mames, Kevin Keegan's League-leaders were finished.

No such excuses for Ron Atkinson's Aston Villa, who have been in European competition for three of the last five seasons. Chasing a 1-0 deficit from the first leg in Turkey, Villa looked set to take the tie to extra time after Dalian Atkinson had scored. But Villa allowed Trabzonspor to score near the end and, despite scoring a second in the last minute through Ugo Ehiogu, that away goal proved their undoing.

● **IAN RUSH, scorer extraordinary, reached the remarkable total of 100 Cup goals for Liverpool during the Coca-Cola Cup match against Stoke City. In his two spells with the club, on either side of a brief spell in Italy, Rush has scored 43 goals in the League Cup, under its various titles, 36 in the FA Cup a in European competitions.**

JOHN KELLY

Ousted . . . Ossie Ardiles.

Brown needs Ally's Army

"I'M NOT, and never will be another Ally MacLeod, but I certainly wish I had Ally's Army behind me."

You could sense the frustration in Scotland national coach Craig Brown's voice as he works long hours in the task of revitalising the team but finds himself, unlike the ebullient MacLeod, confronted with an apparently insurmountable wall of apathy from the Scottish public.

Brown was speaking after Scotland had inflicted a comprehensive 5-1 defeat on the Faroe Islands at Hampden in a European Championship qualifier, a result which followed a comfortable 2-0 over Finland in Helsinki.

Back-to-Back competitive victories are welcome enough nowadays, no matter the opposition. We keep hearing that there are no "minnows" left and that every international side deserves an appropriate level of respect.

Despite guiding Scotland to victory over the Faroes, however, Brown finds himself answering questions as to why the defence had allowed the opposition to record a late consolation goal when he clearly would have preferred to expand on the quality of his own team's efforts, from John Collins (2), John McGinlay, Scott Booth and Billy McKinlay.

Fans flocked to watch Scotland in the days of MacLeod's hyped-up managerial style. But the Ally factor, or lack of it, was brought to the fore by a quick visual scan of the new-look Hampden, with the penetrating glow of the floodlights doing little more than accentuating the vast array of brightly coloured but sadly empty plastic seats that have now replaced the old concrete slopes.

A mere 20,000 fans, little more than half capacity, had turned up, and the figure could have been smaller but for the SFA's tactic of offering cut-price deals to school parties.

The decision to charge £14 and £12 for tickets was largely responsible for the low turnout.

Under the current regime, few are tempted to part with cash of this nature to witness the ritual defeat of a team comprising mostly fishermen and farmers.

On the domestic front, Rangers, have little difficulty in ensuring that their accommodation is fully utilised at home games. Interest in activities at Ibrox continues to run high, with the appetite of the blue regions suitably catered for by the incisive running of Danish import Brian Laudrup.

"I'm glad I don't have to face him on a Saturday," said international full-back David Robertson. "He glides past me every day in training as if I wasn't there."

With Duncan Ferguson on loan to Everton, manager Walter Smith is currently reshaping the Ibrox first team and his most recent recruit from the reserves, 19-year-old striker Charlie Miller, is already a favourite with the fans.

Miller is a local boy, someone the supporters can identify with, and he already looks capable of replacing the injury-jinxed Ally McCoist.

The other major prospect in Scottish football can be found in Edinburgh. He is another teenager, Kevin Harper, who has successfully made the breakthrough at Hibenian.

Manager Alex Miller has no doubts as to the abilities of the pacy, free-scoring youngster, and already has signed him on a long-term contract.

ALAN FAIRLEY

Flying Ranger . . . Danish import Brian Laudrup.

Hopes high for Hamilton

BRYAN HAMILTON's battlers upset the odds to beat Austria 2-1 in Vienna in their first away tie in the Euro '96 qualifiers.

A defeat almost certainly would have ended hopes of qualification for the finals, after only three games, but that never looked likely after a superb early goal by 19-year-old Keith Gillespie, who only a few days earlier had made his FA Premiership debut for Manchester United.

There was much praise, too, for an excellent goalkeeping performance by Paul Kee of Ards, who stepped in after Tommy Wright of Nottingham Forest had to withdraw injured.

Philip Gray's third international goal won a deserved victory, and the Belfast public can now look forward to an exciting Irish derby against the Republic at Windsor Park on November 16.

On the domestic front, Bangor upset the odds in the final of the Ulster Cup, the first competition of the season, by beating Linfield 2-0.

Dubliner Marc Kenny, playing his first full game after breaking an ankle against Linfield eight months previously, was the key figure. He capped a first-class performance with a penalty after 76 minutes, to add to a scrambled opener by Stephen Brown after only 100 seconds.

Portadown, who have added Scottish striker Iain Ferguson to their roster, set a hot pace in the League, winning their first five matches.

Linfield were close behind, with Yorkshireman Gary Haylock rattling in the goals – nine in the League, including hat-tricks against struggling Larne and Omagh in successive weeks. He was followed by Glenn Hunter of Crusaders, who hit eight of his team's 19 goals.

Tommy Jackson paid the penalty for guiding Ballymena to only 11 victories in 40 games in charge. A year after taking over as manager, he has been replaced by former Larne boss Gary Erwin. Patience with managers is a rare commodity at Ballymena.

Linfield bowed out of Europe when the Danes of Odense scored four without reply in the second leg of the UEFA Cup first-round tie, after a 1-1 draw at Windsor Park.

ROY KITSON

Will Georgia be better than Moldova?

DEFEAT in Moldova was a severe setback for Wales, ad the performance was heavily criticised in the Welsh and UK media.

Much blame was heaped on managed Mike Smith, for not forcing the release of top players from the English Premiership the previous weekend.

Resulting injuries and the failure to select Mark Hughes on fitness grounds when he was still turning out for his club were decisive factors.

The forthcoming visit to Georgia for another Euro '96 qualifier present the same problems, but the FAW are expected to overrule Smith and invoke the FIFA player-release clause.

In the Konica League, Inter Cardiff held a one-point advantage over reigning champions Bangor City.

Inter pulled off an excellent last-minute win over Connah's Quay Nomads, despite being under pressure for most of the match, while Bangor failed to capitalise on Llanelli's weak defence and settled for 3-0.

Ton Pentre's stirring 3-2 win at in-form Porthmadog kept them in touch with the top two, but five points adrift.

At the opposite end of the table, Maesteg Park and Aberystwyth Town were without a win. Early days yet, of course, but both clubs have been hit by crises of late. Meirion Appleton has taken over as manager at Aber after Tommy Morgan was dismissed and joined Llansantffraid.

In the Welsh Cup, only two ties paired National League sides: a 3-2 defeat for Mold Alexandra at Connah's Quay and a 3-0 win for Porthmadog against Conwy United.

The professional clubs from the English Leagues come in at the third round, and Cardiff City face the hardest test – a visit to Ebbw Vale. City took two attempts to eliminate Vale last year, and another visit to the Konica side will be far from easy.

The future of Welsh players being classed as foreign when playing in England is being debated at present. The English FA and Football League do not currently class them as such, but over the next few years that may change. All the current national squad play in England, and it is not difficult to visualise the effect this proposed rule implementation would have on the national side.

MEL AP IOR THOMAS

RESULTS

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	12	9	2	1	29	12	29
Nottm Forest	12	8	3	1	25	13	27
Man United	12	8	1	3	21	9	25
Blackburn	12	7	3	2	25	12	24
Liverpool	11	7	2	2	27	11	23
Leeds	12	6	3	3	18	13	21
Chelsea	11	6	1	4	21	14	19
Norwich	12	5	4	3	12	11	19
Man City	12	5	3	4	21	17	18
Arsenal	12	5	3	4	17	13	18
Tottenham	12	5	2	5	21	24	17
Southampton	12	4	3	5	18	22	15
Coventry	12	4	3	5	14	20	15
West Ham	12	4	2	6	8	14	14
Sheff Wed	12	3	4	5	15	21	13
Crystal Palace	12	3	4	5	8	14	13
Wimbledon	12	3	3	6	9	18	12
QPR	12	2	4	6	17	22	10
Aston Villa	12	2	4	6	11	18	10
Leicester	12	2	3	7	14	24	9
Ipswich	12	2	1	9	11	24	7
Everton	12	0	4	8	8	24	4

❒ *Tottenham to be deducted 6pts*

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

MIDWEEK

SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Bright 15)
LEEDS 1 (McAllister 13). **Att:** 23,227.

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 1 (Wright 73)
C PALACE 2 (Salako 19, 41). **Att:** 34,136.

ASTON VILLA 0
NEWCASTLE 2 (Lee 66, Cole 83). **Att:** 29,960.

LEEDS 2 (Whelan 27, 90)
MAN CITY 0. **Att:** 30,938.

LIVERPOOL 4 (Rush 51, McManaman 54, 66, 86)
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Nolan 33). **Att:** 31,493.

MAN UTD 2 (Kanchelskis 41, Sharpe 88)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 43,803.

NORWICH 2 (Bowen 30, Newsome 55)
BLACKBURN 1 (Sutton 4). **Att:** 18,145.

SOUTHAMPTON 3 (Maddison 53, Ekelund 65, Dowie 89)
IPSWICH 1 (Marshall 77). **Att:** 13,246.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Talboys 29)
TOTTENHAM 2 (Sheringham 27, Popescu 63). **Att:** 16,802.

CHELSEA 1 (Furlong 62)
WEST HAM 2 (Allen 53, Moncur 67). **Att:** 18,696.

NOTTM F 3 (Ferdinand 54, Roy 63, Collymore 88)
QPR 2 (Ferdinand 54, Allen 84). **Att:** 21,449.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

MIDWEEK

LEICESTER 2 (Roberts 45, 85)
COVENTRY 2 (Wegerle 11, Dublin 74). **Att:** 19,372.

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — 3RD RND, 2ND LEG

BIRMINGHAM 1 BLACKBURN 1 (agg: 1-2)
BOURNEMOUTH 0 CHELSEA 1 (agg: 0-2)
BRADFORD 1 SHEFF WED 1 (agg: 2-3)
HEREFORD 0 NOTTM F 0 (agg: 1-2)
MANSFIELD 0 LEEDS 0 (agg: 1-0)
SWANSEA 1 NORWICH 0 (agg: 1-3)
TOTTENHAM 2 WATFORD 3 (agg: 8-6)
ARSENAL 2 HARTLEPOOL 0 (agg:7-0)
BARNSLEY 0 NEWCASTLE 1 (agg: 1-3)
BOLTON 1 IPSWICH 0 (agg: 4-0)
BURNLEY 1 LIVERPOOL 4 (agg: 1-6)
COVENTRY 3 WREXHAM 2 (agg: 5-3)
LEICESTER 0 BRIGHTON 2 (agg: 0-3)
MAN CITY 4 BARNET 1 (agg: 4-2)
MAN UTD 2 PORT VALE 0 (agg: 4-1)
PORTSMOUTH 1 EVERTON 1 (agg:4-3)
QPR 2 CARLISLE 0 (agg:3-0)
SOUTHAMPTON 4 HUDDERSFIELD 0 (agg: 5-0)
TORQUAY 0 WIMBLEDON 1 (agg: 0-3)
WIGAN 0 ASTON VILLA 3 (agg: 0-8)
C PALACE 3 LINCOLN 0 (aet, agg: 3-1)
WEST HAM 2 WALSALL 0 (aet, agg: 3-2)

WEEKEND

CHELSEA 4 (Spencer 1, Spencer 49, Peacock 4, Shipperley 76)
LEICESTER 0. **Att:** 18,397.

LIVERPOOL 3 (Ruddock 20, Fowler 26, 57)
A VILLA 2 (Whittingham 37, Staunton 90). **Att:** 32,158.

MAN CITY 3 (Quinn 41, 54, Lomas 70)
NOTTM F 3 (Collymore 22, 53, Woan 89). **Att:** 23,150.

NORWICH 2 (Robins 61, Adams 90) ✓
LEEDS 1 (Wallace 89). **Att:** 17,390.

SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Hirst 44)
MAN UTD 0. **Att:** 33,441.

SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Ekelund 19, Le Tissier 73)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 15,163.

TOTTENHAM 1 (Barmby 79)
QPR 1 (Impey 45) **Att:** 25,799.

WEST HAM 1 (Hutchison 72)
CRYSTAL PALACE 0. **Att:** 16,959.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Jones 82)
ARSENAL 3 (Wright 11, Smith 57, Campbell 65). **Att:** 10,842.

NEWCASTLE 1 (Howey 88)
BLACKBURN 1 (Shearer pen 58). **Att:** 34,344.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

MIDWEEK

COVENTRY 2 (Wark og 45, Cook pen 76)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 9,526.

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 3 (Wright 39, 63, Campbell 54)
CHELSEA 1 (Wise 34). **Att:** 38,234.

ASTON VILLA 1 (Saunders 62)
NORWICH 1 (Milligan 50). **Att:** 22,468.

BLACKBURN 3 (Atkins 52, Sutton 58, 73)
LIVERPOOL 2 (Fowler 30, Barnes 60). **Att:** 30,263.

CRYSTAL PALACE 0
NEWCASTLE 1 (Beardsley 89). **Att:** 17,760.

EVERTON 0
COVENTRY 2 (Dublin 7, Wegerle 18). **Att:** 28,233.

LEEDS 1 (Deane 62)
TOTTENHAM 1 (Sheringham 27). **Att:** 39,224.

LEICESTER 4 (Blake 3, 53, Roberts 21, Carr 82)
SOUTHAMPTON 3 (Dowie 78, Le Tissier 90, Dowie 90). **Att:** 20,020.

MAN UTD 1 (Cantona 44)
WEST HAM 0. **Att:** 43,795.

QPR 1 (Wilson 63)
MAN CITY 2 (Flitcroft 56, Walsh 58). **Att:** 13,631.

IPSWICH 1 (Wark 50)
SHEFF WED 2 (Bright 10, Hirst 90). **Att:** 13,075. ✓

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

MIDWEEK

NOTTM F 3 (Bohinen 41, Collymore 66, Woan 75)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Gayle 81). **Att:** 20,287.

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 2 (Wright 13, 32)
COVENTRY 1 (Wegerle pen 81). At: 31,715.

ASTON VILLA 0
NOTTM F 2 (Pearce pen 2, Stone 70). **Att:** 29,217.

BLACKBURN 2 (Warhurst 14, Henry 51)
MAN UTD 4 (Cantona pen 45, Kanchelskis 52, 82, Hughes 62). **Att:** 30,260.

CHELSEA 2 (Wise 74, Shipperley 83)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 15,068.

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Preece 53)
EVERTON 0. **Att:** 14,505.

LIVERPOOL 3 (McManaman 21, Fowler 35, Barnes 63)
WIMBLEDON 0. **Att:** 31,139.

MAN CITY 5 (Walsh 16, 45, Quinn 41, Lomas 53, Flitcroft 80)
TOTTENHAM 2 (Dumitrescu 31 pen, 46). **Att:** 25,473.

NEWCASTLE 2 (Watson 35, Cole 37)
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Taylor 55). **Att:** 34,408.

NORWICH 4 (Robins 47, Bowen 54, Sheron 58, White og 63)
QPR 2 (Barker 24, Gallen 62). **Att:** 19,431.

WEST HAM 2 (Allen 49, Rush 62)
SOUTHAMPTON 0. **Att:** 18,853.

BELL'S SCOTTISH PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	11	7	1	3	20	10	22
Hibernian	11	5	5	1	16	7	20
Motherwell	11	5	5	1	21	15	20
Celtic	11	4	4	3	12	11	16
Falkirk	11	4	4	3	15	15	16
Hearts	11	5	1	5	13	13	16
Aberdeen	11	2	5	4	16	17	11
Dundee United	11	3	2	6	8	17	11
Kilmarnock	11	2	3	6	8	16	9
Partick	11	2	2	7	9	17	8

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

FALKIRK 2 (McLaughlin 22, McAvennie 69)
HEARTS 1 (Robertson 19). **Att:** 7,581.

HIBERNIAN 3 (Jackson 20, 22, McGraw 90)
PARTICK THISTLE 0. **Att:** 7,168.

KILMARNOCK 2 (Winnie og 6, Brown 85)
ABERDEEN 1 (Booth 39). **Att:** 7,445.

MOTHERWELL 1 (Arnott 88)
CELTIC 1 (Walker 34). **Att:** 10,869.

RANGERS 2 (Hateley 24, Laudrup 87)
DUNDEE UTD 0. **Att:** 43,030.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

WEEKEND

CELTIC 0
ABERDEEN 0. **Att:** 29,024.

HIBERNIAN 2 (Hunter 46, Harper 81)
RANGERS 1 (Boli 10). **Att:** 12,118.

KILMARNOCK 0
DUNDEE UTD 2 (Welsh 29, Ristic 87). **Att:** 7,127.

MOTHERWELL 5 (Coyne 3, 86, Davies 22, Arnott 73, 79)
FALKIRK 3 (Clark 34, 59, McAvennie 65). **Att:** 6,239.

PARTICK THISTLE 0
HEARTS 1 (Robertson 25). **Att:** 5,384.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 1 (Dodds pen 34)
MOTHERWELL 3 (McKinnon 56, Kirk 75, Coyne 80). **Att:** 12,500.

DUNDEE UTD 0
PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Cameron 87). **Att:** 6,687.

FALKIRK 0
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 7,338.

HEARTS 1 (Robertson 42)
CELTIC 0. **Att:** 12,086.

RANGERS 2 (Miller 76, Robertson 87)
KILMARNOCK 0. **Att:** 44,099.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

CELTIC 0
FALKIRK 2 (Henderson 14, Clark 54). **Att:** 23,719.

DUNDEE UTD 0
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 7,983.

HEARTS 2 (Frail 12, Robertson 41)
ABERDEEN 0. **Att:** 10,655.

KILMARNOCK 2 (McKee 57, Brown 64)
PARTICK THISTLE 0. **Att:** 7,023.

MOTHERWELL 2 (Arnott 11, 50)
RANGERS 1 (Philliben og 82). **Att:** 11,160.

Viva Velez!

South American champions Velez Sarsfield have at last joined the giants, says Eric Weil

CLUB ATLETICO VELEZ SARSFIELD must have surprised themselves as much as anybody by winning this year's Libertadores Cup. Now the world stage beckons as they prepare to take on Milan in the World Club Cup in Tokyo on December 11.

After taking last season's opening national championship to qualify for the tournament early this year – only their second national title in 84 years – they had not done particularly well, so much so that for the final Libertadores rounds they decided to concentrate entirely on the Cup and left their reserve team to play league games.

The reserves did just as well as the first team had done, but the club finished two points from the bottom in the national closing championship in August. At press time, however, they topped the 1994-95 opening championship after five wins in six games.

As far as results go, Velez Sarsfield rarely have set the soccer world alight, but they are considered one of Argentina's major clubs simply because of their size.

Over 30 sports are operated at installations build around their stadium in the populous Buenos Aires suburb of Liniers and at a fairly new sports complex a little further west (in Castelar). There are now 30,630 members – and even a university!

Although soccer is the main sport, Velez Sarsfield are one of the few clubs who do not throw away more money than they have on soccer success, and therefore are among the small number not in the red. It was not always so.

On a rainy January 1, 1910, a group of young men found the best place to meet was in the tunnel under the rails at their local station in the west of Buenos Aires. There they decided to form a football club, Argentinos de Velez Sarsfield (the name of the station and of an Argentinian statesman). A plaque still marks the spot.

Their first shirts were white – the cheapest available – and within a year financial difficulties forced the group into merging with a club run by a bookshop (Libreria del Colegio). Their current colours (blue V on white) came about by accident. In 1933 the club ordered a new set of shirts which the tailor could not finish in time, and he had to deliver a strip intended for a rugby team.

When soccer officially became professional in 1931, they joined the professional championship, but after several ups and downs, including time spent in the Second Division, their first title came in the 1968 national championship (which did not then automatically qualify them for the Libertadores Cup) and another 25 years passed before they gained another crown, last season.

They had played only once previously in the Libertadores, in 1980, when their record (4 wins, 5 draws, 2 defeats) took them as far as the semi-final group.

Early financial problems continued virtually until 1940 when Jose Amalfitani, who had for long been on committees (but his advice was seldom heeded) became president. The club had just been relegated, had only 45 pesos in their safe, and had only 2000 members.

In their early years, Velez had to rent fields to play on. In 1930, they built their first stadium, nicknamed El Fortin (the fort) because visiting teams rarely won there, but it was hemmed in on all sides by buildings and there was no room to expand.

Under Amalfitani's guidance a stadium was built in the same district on land reclaimed from a river which was diverted into an underground stream.

The new home was built in bits and pieces, as money permitted, but finally turned into the second best in the country (capacity 50,000) when it was refurbished for the 1978 World Cup at the government's expense. It is called Amalfitani, in honour of the man who built up the club and remained president until his death in 1969.

Like every leading club, Velez have a list of celebrated players too long to enumerate, but the current team contain no real stars, except for Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert *(see feature, right)*, renowned for his penalty stopping and taking.

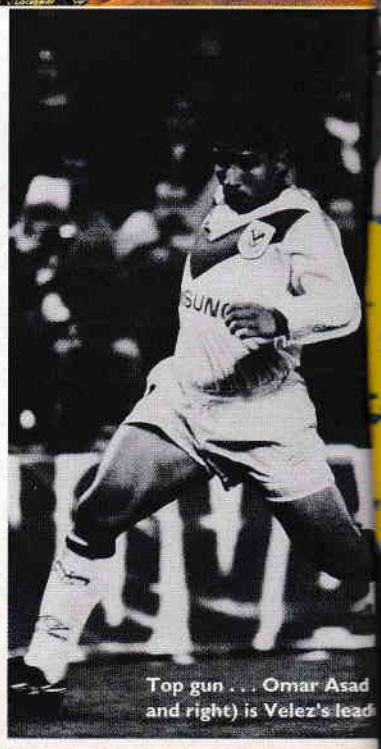
In this season's Libertadores Cup he helped Velez through three rounds decided on penalty shoot-outs, during which he saved four and scored three. So watch out Milan, if it comes to a penalty shoot-out in the Toyota Cup!

There is only one seasoned international in the side, midfielder Joe Basualdo (38 caps), although defender Victor Sotomayor has been in the national squad.

They have a tight defence, a solid midfield who give the team more of an attacking image than most Argentinian clubs, and a real fighter up front in Omar Asad, their leading scorer, who is backed up by the more technical Esteban Flores.

But perhaps the team's greatest virtue is that knowing they have no stars and that their successes have been gained with little to spare, they must fight all the way. They are worked hard in training technically, physically and psychologically, by coach Carlos Bianchi.

Of the 25 main players – all native Argentinians except for Chilavert and Jose Luis Sanchez, who recently arrived from Chile's Union Espanola for $500,000 – 18 made their league debuts with Velez. Nearly all of those, as well as others in the squad, were born in the vicinity of the club, which makes the Velez 'family' unusual in modern professional soccer.



Top gun . . . Omar Asad
and right) is Velez's lead

Victorious Velez . . . Christian Bassedas and Omar Asad celebrate with the Libertadores Cup.

CLUB ATLETICO VELEZ SARSFIELD
Founded January 1, 1910 (as Argentinos de Velez Sarsfield; Argentinos dropped in 1913)
Address Avenida Juan B. Justo 9200, (1408) Buenos Aires, Argentina
Stadium Almafitani (50,000) same address
Colours Blue V on white
President Hector Gaudio
Coach Carlos Bianchi
Honours
National champions 1968, 1993
Libertadores Cup 1994

Keeper turned goal poacher

Brian Homewood profiles the penalty-taking goalkeeper who never passes up a goalscoring opportunity

VELEZ SARSFIELD fans were treated to a piece of football history recently when, to general incredulity, goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert scored the winning goal against Deportivo Espanol with a 25-yard free kick.

Velez, who had won their first four games in the championship, appeared to be heading for a 0-0 draw at home to Deportivo Espanol when they were awarded the free kick in the last minute.

Team captain Roberto Trotta was already lining up the ball for a shot when Chilavert rushed from his goal and demanded to be allowed to have a whack. Trotta disagreed but after a angry row, during which Chilavert refused to go back to his goal until he was allowed to take the kick, the captain relented and gave the goalkeeper his chance.

The response was a left-foot shot which whistled past a seven-man wall into the top corner of the Deportivo net. Chilavert was mobbed by his team-mates, apart from the resentful Trotta, who preferred to sulk in the middle of the pitch.

Chilavert scoring from penalties for both Velez and his country Paraguay has become something of a routine. He has done it a total of 28 times in the last three years and his efforts included one which gave Paraguay a 2-1 win over Peru in a World Cup qualifier last year.

"It was a critical moment and nobody else was very keen, so I stepped up," he said. He also scored in the penalty shoot-out for Velez in the final of this year's Libertadores Cup against Sao Paulo, which Velez won.

But this was the first time he had taken a free kick during a game. "I would like to do it more regularly but that depends on the manager [Carlos Bianchi]," he said. "Obviously, it is risky to leave the goal open but if you don't take risks, you don't win games."

The goal was no fluke, however. Chilavert says he spends half an hour practising free kicks at the end of every training session.

Chilavert began his career with Sportivo Luqueno in 1980 before moving to Guarani, another Paraguayan side, three years later. Since 1985, he has played abroad – first in Argentina with San Lorenzo and then in Spain where he spent three and a half years with Real Zaragoza. He joined Velez in 1991 and has just signed a new two-year contract.

Chilavert . . . spot-kick specialist.

The burly Paraguayan is quick to disassociate himself from Jorge Campos and Rene Higuita, two other unorthodox but far more flamboyant Latin American goalkeepers.

In fact, there is nothing of a show man in Chilavert. He tends to shun publicity and during games concentrates most of his energies on provoking opposing forwards, which has made him an unpopular opponent. Millions saw a typically sharp exchange between him and Sao Paulo forward Muller during the penalty shoot-out in the Libertadores final.

"He said that Paraguayans were no good and questioned my parentage," said Chilavert, who tried to psyche Muller out before the penalty by pointing to where he thought he would put the ball. Muller scored anyway. "I'm rude to forwards and they're rude to me but it's just part of the game."

He is equally uncompromising in his attitude towards the Paraguayan national team. "I'm never playing again, it's too much hassle," he said. "People there are jealous of anyone who becomes successful. They build you up, then they try to knock you down. They have treated me very badly.

"Last year, we had three managers in the space of three months. The directors are always sticking their noses into the affairs of the coach and the players instead of letting us get on with the job. It's difficult to work like this."

Chilavert added that he was still proud to be Paraguayan – so much so that his ambition is to one day be elected the country's president.

Argentina

Maradona the coach

Better than Basinger . . . Maradona is back in football, coaching at Deportivo Mandiyu.

THE latest episode of the current soap opera, The Life of Maradona, is called Maradona the Coach.

At his one and only media conference since the World Cup, shortly after FIFA had rejected an appeal to shorten his 15-month ban, Maradona said that he had been invited to become Boca Juniors' assistant coach under Cesar Menotti, his former World Cup boss, from whom he would learn the ropes.

Sure enough, he turned up there the next day, and the day after, mostly to train goalkeepers, followed on each occasion by a large posse of reporters.

The following day was the start of spring when schoolchildren traditionally go on picnics. He took his daughters on one – and that was the last Boca saw of him as coach.

Two questions remained: was he using Boca or were Boca using him? They had been getting poor results, fans and officials were fed up, and Maradona's intrusion seemed a welcome diversion.

One who took notice was Roberto Cruz, president of Deportivo Mandiyu of Corrientes. Mandiyu are in serious danger of relegation unless they improve greatly, and had just dismissed their coach.

Cruz had been president of a Second Division club, Deportivo Laferrere, where Diego's brother Lalo had played for a short time.

The connection was made – a way for Diego to get back into soccer and out of the depression he had been in since the World Cup.

He had no coaching certificates, so he turned up with former Argentinos Juniors team-mate Carlos Fren, who had one, and would officially be sitting on the bench communicating with Diego in the stands by phone.

"With Diego's arrival, Mandiyu will become one of the great clubs of Argentine soccer," president Cruz said enthusiastically. When asked how long he thought it would last, taking into account Diego's recent short stays at Newell's Old Boys and Boca Juniors, he replied; "It's like a dream having Diego here, like going out with Kim Basinger.

"When you go out with Kim you wouldn't think all the time about how long it was going to last."

At press time Maradona has been in Corrientes for two weeks.

He has special affection for the place, because his father was born there. He and Fren have not signed contracts and were not getting paid, but Cruz says sponsors are expected to come forward to pay them.

Maradona apparently has been showing great enthusiasm in his new job. Brother Lalo is now an assistant coach at Mandiyu, and his other brother, Hugo, is playing in Japan.

"I want to be a coach for ever," Diego said. "Everybody knows I like attacking soccer, but I respect the players. They are the stars. I never agreed with coaches who want to be more in the limelight than their players.

"I don't want spectators to keep chanting my name [as has been the case]. I want them to cheer the players. They need it."

Diego, joking continuously during training with the players, had certainly lifted their spirits. In his first week he also decided that for the first time the team would go to a hotel outside town five days before the game "to concentrate".

If anything, he was giving them too many instructions – something for which he had in the past blamed his World Cup coach, Carlos Bilardo.

Come the day of the match and Diego kept up the torrent of instructions. He couldn't stay seated for a minute. Mandiyu lost 2-1 at home to one of the leading teams, Rosario Central, but as the teams went off, spectators cheered Maradona.

Somebody said they had better get Kim Basinger.

Brazil

Palmeiras all the way

BRAZIL's championship, which many do not understand and those who do find ridiculous, has reached its second stage.

Palmeiras have carried all before them so far, having dropped only one point in their first 12 games, and look like retaining their title.

Vasco da Gama, the Rio champions, left on a tour to Korea before the end of the first stage, when they had already qualified, and a reserve team played the last game. Defensive tactics under coach Sebastiao Lazaroni (returned from Italy) are annoying their fans. Lazaroni also became unpopular when trying to change Brazil's style (to European) for the 1990 World Cup.

Botafogo also went off on tour, to Japan, before the second stage began and brought forward their first game within four hours of the fixtures being announced – surely a record.

Tulio of Botafogo is leading scorer with eight goals, followed by Amoroso (Guarani) with six.

Edinho played his first game at the Maracana stadium and had a blinder in goal for Santos, who drew 1-1 with Flamengo, 25 years after his father, Pele, scored his 1,000th goal there.

Santos stopper . . . goalkeeper Edinho.

Argentina

The five-day summer break

WITH the 1994-95 season starting only five days after 1993-94 ended – due to the World Cup stoppage – not much has changed in the Argentine National League.

But Velez Sarsfield, who finished near the bottom while concentrating their efforts on winning the Libertadores Cup, are now putting their best into League matches again and top the opening championship with only one point dropped.

River Plate, close to winning the 1993-94 closing championship title until they slumped inexplicably when the tournament resumed after the World Cup, are a point behind and serious contenders. Their many talented players include Enzo Francescoli, back from Italy.

Americo Gallego, assistant to Daniel Passarella before he left to become national coach, is temporarily in charge, although he is due to join Passarella before the year's end.

Closing championship winners Independiente and runners-up Huracan also are up among the leaders, the former beating their Avellaneda neighbours, Racing Club (2-0), for the first time in 11 years.

Racing signed former Uruguayan national team coach Luis Cubillas – their 56th coach since 1970 – but remain in the middle of the table.

Independiente's reserve team beat Belgrano 3-1 while the first team was resting for the Super Cup.

Boca Juniors set the transfer market alight during the few days between the two seasons with seven signings, including former national team defenders Fernando Gamboa and Nestor Fabbri.

But their defence is still shaky, they lack attacking ideas and coach Cesar Menotti does not seem to have found the right line-up as they continue in the middle of the table.

San Lorenzo also have a problem. They were unbeaten in 13 games (going back to last season), but had won only four. They drew five games running 0-0 and a sixth 1-1.

Argentinos Juniors' contract with a TV firm to play home games 1400km from home in Mendoza finished at the end of the season and so did the contracts of half their team, which belonged to the TV company. Argentinos, however, are not doing badly in mid-table, and nor are the TV people, who now televise specially-arranged top division games live on Friday, Saturday and Monday night.

● *New national coach Daniel Passarella kept only midfielders Ariel Ortega and Hugo Perez from the World Cup party when he named his squad for a November friendly in Chile. No fewer than 20 of the 23 players named were uncapped. The third exception is 1990 World Cup defender Nestor Fabbri.*

GOALKEEPERS: German Burgos (River Plate), Carlos Bossio (Estudiantes). DEFENDERS: Nestor Fabbri, Rodolfo Arruabarrena, Nelson Vivas and Luis Medero (all Boca Juniors), Roberto Ayala (River Plate), Pablo Rotchen (Independiente), Juan Carlos Sorin (Argentinos Juniors). MIDFIELDERS: Hugo Perez, Gustavo Lopez (both Independiente), Cristian Bassedas (Velez Sarsfield), Cristian Gonzalez (Rosario Central), Jorge Jimenez, Javier Zanetti (both Banfield), Marcelo Escudero (Newell's Old Boys), Marcelo Gallardo, Ariel Ortega (both River Plate). FORWARDS: Luis Carranza (Boca Juniors), Hernan Crespo (River Plate), Marcelo Espina (Platense), Jose Flores (Velez Sarsfield), Sebastian Rambert (Independiente).

Brazil

William pays bill in doping mix-up

BRAZIL's football directors have made an all too predictable hash of things in their attempt to introduce doping tests to the National Championship.

In theory, the system is beautifully simple. Shortly before the end of each game two players from each side are randomly chosen to undergo the test, the samples are analysed and, providing all goes to plan, nothing more is heard.

Under the auspices of the CBF, however, things have gone horribly wrong.

The system was thrown into disrepute when one player – Vasco da Gama midfielder William – was unable to provide a urine sample following an away game with Guarani in the city of Campinas, and left the stadium without doing the test.

Vasco director Eurico Miranda ordered William to depart with the rest of the team after one hour and 45 minutes of waiting, during which the hapless player drank six beers in a vain attempt to provide the sample. Miranda said that otherwise the team would have missed the last plane back to Rio.

William then found himself to be Miranda's pawn, as the publicity-hungry Vasco director turned the case into a personal battle.

The CBF began it by provisionally banning William for 20 days, but Vasco defied this by fielding him during an excursion to South Korea.

Miranda's interpretation was that the ban "only applies in Brazil," a question never resolved by the CBF.

When Vasco returned home, the CBF announced their final verdict on the matter: 30-day ban on top of the previous 20-day ban.

Miranda, however, had other ideas and ordered William to play in a championship match against Paysandu, arrogantly declaring he would get all the punishments overturned at an appeal.

Vasco had five points deducted for fielding an ineligible player, but Miranda ordered William to play again in the next match against Corinthians, once again boasting that he would get both bans overturned, and the points.

By this stage William clearly was fed up with the whole episode, and the day before the Corinthians game he suffered a mysterious 'thigh' injury, which persisted until his ban expired.

That left the crucial question unanswered: how to deal with such incidents? Nearly everyone agreed that both Miranda and the CBF had made a pig's ear of the whole issue and that, if a player really wants to dope himself (clearly not William's case), a 30-day ban for not giving a sample would not intimidate him.

BRIAN HOMEWOOD

High and dry . . . Vasco midfielder William.

● IN PARAGUAY, **Saturnino Cardozo scored six goals in Olympia's 7-2 win against Guarani Oviedo to beat the record held for 10 years by Aristides del Puerto, also of Olimpia. The club are top of the second round of the National Championship with all five games won.**

● **IN URUGUAY,** Penarol beat Nacional 2-1 to end their unbeaten record in the First Division closing championship, but Nacional still lead Penarol by one point with three games to go. The winner will play opening championship winners, Defensor Sporting for the title. Osvaldo Canobbio (Nacional) is top scorer with seven goals, followed by Dario Silva (Penarol) on six.

● IN PERU, **Lima's Alianza and Universitario, the most popular clubs in the country, drew 1-1, but both are virtually out of the title fight, nine and 11 points respectively behind leaders Sporting Cristal, with seven games to go.**

● **IN ECUADOR,** first-stage winners Espoli, backed by the police force, and Barcelona won the two groups of the second stage. Espoli, Nacional, Deportivo Quito, Emelec (last year's champs) and Barcelona have qualified for the final round leaving one place open. Yugoslav Dusan Draskovic, Ecuador's former national team coach, has signed for Barcelona.

● IN CHILE, **Universidad Catolica continue to lead by two points over Universidad de Chile with almost half the championship (12 games) to go. Catolica have three Argentinian internationals – Sergio Vazquez, Nestor Gorosito and Alberto Acosta.**

Juvenal Olmos of Catolica could face court action after he kicked a photographer, who is in hospital in a serious condition. This, in turn, could provoke a players' strike. Argentinian players in Chile say they are being discriminated against by a section of the press.

● **IN VENEZUELA,** six group winners of a pre-season tournament – Caracas FC, Lara, Trujillanos, Minerven, Tachira and Maritimo – qualified for the final round.The First Division began with 22 clubs in four geographic groups, including Second Division teams – a new format meant to increase interest.

● IN BOLIVIA, **Spaniard Antonio Lopez, who was assistant to his compatriot, Xavier Azkargorta, in the World Cup, has signed as coach for Bolivar, who are second in Group B to San Jose despite beating them 8-3. The Strongest and Jorge Wilsterman are joint-leaders in Group A.**

Tables

ARGENTINA

National A Division —
Opening championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Velez Sarsfield	6	5	1	0	8	1	11
River Plate	6	4	2	0	8	4	10
Huracan	6	4	1	1	12	5	9
Rosario Central	6	3	2	1	5	2	8
Independiente	6	3	1	2	10	6	7
Racing Club	6	3	1	2	4	3	7
Lanus	6	3	1	2	5	5	7
Newell's Old Boys	6	2	3	1	9	7	7
San Lorenzo	6	1	5	0	4	3	7
Argentinos Juniors	6	3	1	2	5	5	7
Talleres Cordoba	6	1	4	1	9	8	6
FC Oeste	6	2	2	2	6	6	6
Banfield	6	2	1	3	4	5	5
Boca Juniors	6	1	3	2	8	9	5
Gimnasia LP	6	1	3	2	6	8	5
Gimnasia Jujuy	6	2	0	4	5	9	4
Platense	6	0	3	3	3	10	3
Mandiyu Corrientes	6	0	2	4	6	11	2
Belgrano Cordoba	6	0	2	4	3	8	2
Dep. Espanol	6	0	2	4	3	8	2

Relegation average (over last 3 seasons – bottom two relegated): Argentinos Juniors 0.913; Mandiyu 0.841; Platense 0.841; Newell's OB 0.829; Gimnasia Jujuy 0.666.

BRAZIL

National Championship
First stage — final standings

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Corinthians	10	5	3	2	18	14	13
Flamengo	10	4	4	1	16	11	12
Gremio	10	4	4	2	12	9	12
Sport Recife	10	3	4	3	11	16	10
Criciuma	10	2	5	3	14	11	9
Bragantino	10	1	2	7	8	18	4
Group B							
Botafogo	10	5	2	3	16	12	12
Paysandu	10	5	2	3	14	13	12
Sao Paulo	10	3	5	2	11	10	11
Portuguesa	10	2	6	2	4	4	10
Atletico Mineiro	10	2	4	4	8	10	8
Vitoria	10	1	5	4	9	13	7
Group C							
Guarani	10	7	1	2	17	7	15
Santos	10	6	2	2	16	8	14
Vasco da Gama	10	4	3	3	12	9	11
Bahi	10	4	3	3	11	13	11
Remo	10	2	1	7	5	15	5
Cruzeiro	10	1	2	7	7	16	4
Group D							
Palmeiras	10	9	1	0	26	7	19
Fluminense	10	4	2	4	14	15	10
Parana	10	3	3	4	15	18	9
Internacional PA	10	3	2	5	14	13	8
Uniao Sao Jose	10	3	2	5	10	14	8
Nautico	10	1	4	5	7	19	6

● *Top four of each group qualify for second stage with group winners taking one bonus point. Rest play in relegation section from which bottom two are relegated to Second Division and top two also go into third stage (quarter-finals).*

CHILE

First Division

After 17 of 30 games: 1) Universidad Catolica 29pts; 2) Universidad de Chile 27; 3) O'Higgins 24; 4) Colo Colo 22; 5) Union Espanola 21; 6) Temuc, Antofagasta, Everton 19; 9) Atacama 17; 10) Cobreloa 16; 11)Palestino 15; 12) La Serena, , Coquimbo, Osorno 13; 15) Cobresal 11; 16) Rangers Talca 10.

COLOMBIA

First Division

Overall standings after 40 games: 1) Nacional 52pts; 2) Caldas 48; 3) Millonarios 47; 4) Independiente Medellin 46; 5) Junior Barranquilla, Deportivo Cali 45; 7) America 44; 8) Envigado 42; 9) Cucuta 41; 10) Independiente Santa Fe 38; 11) Union Magdalena, Huila 37; 13) Pereira 35; 14) Quindio, Tulua 34;16) Bucaramanga 31. *(Top 8 qualify for final round at end of regular season).*

ECUADOR

First Division — 2nd stage
After 9 games (one to go)

Group 1: Espoli 15 pts; Emelec & Dep. Quito 13; Liga Portoviejo 8; Liga Univ. Quito 6; Delfin 5.

Group 2: Barcelona 14; Aucas 12; Nacional & Cuenca 10; Green Cross 7; Valdez 6. *(Top 3 of each group qualify for next stage.)*

PERU

National Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Cristal	23	20	1	2	73	12	43
Alianza Lima	23	14	6	3	44	22	34
Universitario	23	15	2	6	31	14	32
Ciclista Lima	23	11	5	7	41	41	27
Dep. Municipal	23	11	4	8	30	25	26
Sipesa Chimbote	23	11	4	8	32	25	26
Leon Huanuco	23	11	3	9	28	31	25
Melgar Arequipa	23	9	7	7	31	32	25
Aurich Chiclayo	23	8	5	10	24	26	21
Union Minas	23	8	5	10	25	34	21
Alizana Sullana	23	8	2	13	31	44	18
San Agustin	23	6	5	12	26	40	17
Sport Boys Calloa	23	7	1	15	22	36	15
Cienciano Cusco	23	5	4	14	15	30	14
Manucci Trujillo	23	3	8	12	16	33	14
Defensor Lima	23	2	8	13	21	51	12

URUGUAY

First Division —
Closing Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional	9	7	1	1	17	8	15
Penarol	9	7	0	2	22	8	14
Wanderers	9	5	3	1	17	8	13
Cerro	10	4	5	1	15	11	13
Defensor Sporting	9	3	4	2	10	5	10

Further standings: 6) Central Espanol, Rampla Juniors, River Plate 9; 9) Bella Vista 7; 10) Basanez, Danubio, Liverpool, Progreso 5.

VENEZUELA

Opening Championship
Final group leaders — winners qualify for final round

Group A: Caracas FC 10pts, Marinos 6.

Group B: Trujillanos 15, San Cristobal 12.

Group C: Minerven 15, Monagas & Mineros 9.

Group D: Tachira 17, El Vigia 7.

Group E: Maritimo 12, Dep. Italia 11.

Group F: Lara 14, Zamora 13.

PARAGUAY

National Championship — 2nd Round

After 5 games: 1) Olimpia 10pts; 2) Sol de America 8; 3) Cerro Porteno, Sport Colombia, Guarani, Nacional 7; 7) Sportivo Luqeno, Cerro Cora, River Plate 6; 10) Trinidense, Libertad 5; 12) 8 de Diciembre, Humaita, 12 de Octubre, Boqueron, Cerro Porteno (Este) 4; 17) Colegiales 3; 18) Presidente Hayes 2; 19) Pettirossi, Guarani (Oviedo) 0.

BOLIVIA

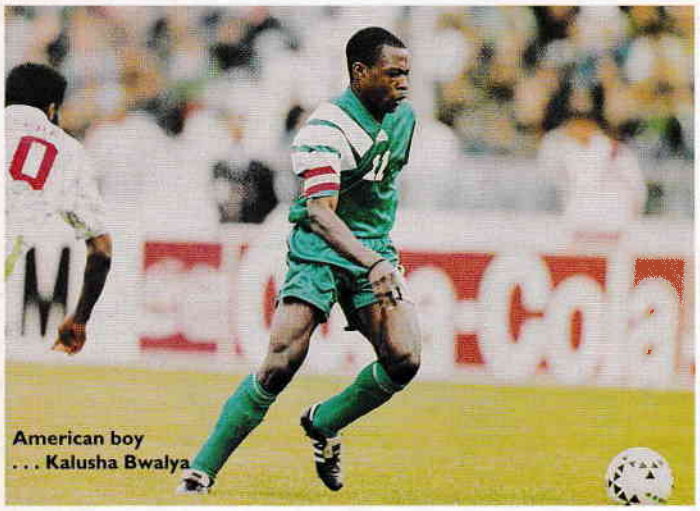
National Championship — 2nd Stage

Group A: 1) The Strongest, Jorge Wilsterman 9; 3) Blooming, Ciclon 7; 5) Guabira 6; 6) Matalsan 2.

Group 2: 1) San Jose 9; 2) Bolivar, Real Santa Cruz 8; 4) Independiente Petrolero 6; 5) Oriente Petrolero 5; 6) Destroyers 4.

ERIC WEIL

Much promise despite the problems



American boy . . . Kalusha Bwalya

WHICHEVER WAY you look at it, the two Televisa teams, America and Necaxa, are the best in the Mexican League after eight matches. Both cases merit a quick analysis if one is to understand the complexity of playing soccer in Mexico.

Teams have to play at different altitudes, ranging from 2,600 metres in Toluca to sea-level in Veracruz or Tampico, often during the same week. This demands very strict physical conditioning. Then, due to the short-lived presence of officers in the Mexican Federation, changing of competition rules is frequent.

This year, for instance, the newly-elected board decided almost overnight to create a First Division 'A', a Second Division and a Third Division, replacing the Second and Third Divisions that existed. The idea was sound, but poorly executed.

The aim was to allow in First Division 'A' only those teams from the old Second Division with proper stadium facilities, parking, population, economic standing etc.

The board also accepted five foreign players on the field at any given time although a government decree limits the number to four.

How can you want to increase the number of foreign players and at the same time claim that we have enough Mexicans to fulfil the needs of a totally new 'A' League?

Players in Mexico are the best paid on this continent, but first-class Latin American players prefer to play in Europe. So many Mexican teamsare looking elsewhere – notably Africa.

The America club decided to go European and hired the excellent coach, better known as a more than excellent player representative: Leo Beenhakker. He is thought to be behind the signing of Francois Omam-Biyik (Cameroon) and Kalusha Bwalya (Zambia), both with great experience in European football.

Necaxa of Mexico City have not yet lost, dropping only two points, to a free-kick and a penalty. Oddly enough Necexa, once one of the most popular teams of the country, suffered after changing names to Atletico Espanol, and then returning to their old one. Many fans deserted them.

Necaxa have not been able to draw more than 15,000 people to the Aztec stadium, in spite of the fact that they had two excellent consecutive seasons (1992-94), and can field players such as Ignacio Ambriz, Alberto Garcia Aspe, Ricardo Peaez, Ivo Basay and Alex Aguinaga.

America play an attacking game, something to be expected from the two Africans plus Zague, Uribe and Del Olmo. The Brazilians Edu, after a short stay in the Japanese League, is back as a reserve. They scored 15 goals in two consecutive matches allowing Omam-Biyik to tie with Carlos Hermosillo (Craz Azul) as leading scorer, with nine goals.

The two biggest disappointments are the finalists of the last tournament, Tecos UAG and Santos Laguna, plus Atlante of Mexico City.

Looking at the brighter side this is evidence that we are in the middle of a very even tournament. Puebla, Atlas and Toluca are big surprises thus far, playing high-quality football.

Atlas started a youth programme three years ago, headed by Argentinian coach Marceloa Bielsa (of Newell's Old Boys fame) and this is beginning to pay off.

Toluca have an interesting mix of veteran and young players headed by the Argentinian Horacio Humoller and two Mexican internationals Jorge Rodriguez and Marcelino Bernal.

Puebla are coached by former Mexican international Alfredo Tena, and head the group after losing only the first match.

More people are going to the games (33,125 average attendance so far) and 227 goals have been scored (3.15 per match).

CARLOS F. RAMIREZ

MEXICO — First Division

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Necaxa	8	6	2	0	14	2	14
America	8	5	2	1	25	10	12
UNL	7	2	2	3	9	9	6
Toros Neza	7	2	1	4	12	16	5
UAG	7	1	2	4	6	12	4
Group 2							
Veracruz	8	4	1	3	11	9	9
Cruz Azul	7	3	2	2	16	9	8
Correcaminos	7	3	1	3	10	15	7
Morelia	7	2	2	3	13	21	6
Atlante	7	1	2	4	8	13	4
Group 3							
Puebla	8	3	4	1	8	8	10
Guadalajara	8	3	3	2	15	12	9
UNAM	8	4	1	3	15	14	9
Toluca	8	3	2	4	11	6	8
Tampico-Madero	8	3	0	5	14	19	6
Group 4							
Atlas	8	4	1	3	10	11	9
Leon	8	2	3	3	11	10	7
Monterrey	8	1	5	2	5	9	7
Santos	7	2	0	5	12	19	4

Top two of each group qualify for play-offs.

COSTA RICA

SAPRISSA held a one-point lead in Costa Rica over Herediano, thanks to a stringof five wins and one draw in seven matches.

Unfortunately, Saprissa's offensive power has yet to match defensive prowess. They have allowed a mere five goals, but have managed to score only 12. Javier Wanchope has accounted for five.

Herediano, however, have been scoring at a rate of over two goals per match. Honduras Nicolas Suazo has shown no signs of slowing down, scoring six goals in the last six games. Roger Gomez has contributed five.

COSTA RICA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saprissa	10	6	3	1	12	5	15
Herediano	10	7	0	3	21	11	14
Cartagines	10	5	2	3	19	9	12
San Carlos	10	6	0	4	11	12	12
Turrialba	10	4	3	3	14	10	11
Alajuela	10	4	2	4	13	12	10
Perez Zeledon	10	3	4	3	9	11	10
Puntarenas	10	4	1	5	13	19	9
Belen	10	3	2	5	9	15	8
Sagrada Familia	10	3	1	6	6	14	7
Ramonense	10	3	1	6	9	12	7
Limon	10	1	3	6	11	18	5

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

POLICE won the FA Cup by beating Superstar Rangers in the championship match replay, 3-0 on penalties, following a 1-1 draw at Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain.

Police took a 75th-minute lead, when goalkeeper Trevor Nottingham could not punch a cross out of danger. A wild scramble in front of the goal ensured, and Keith Scott slipped the ball into an almost empty net.

Rangers kept attacking and were rewarded in the 84th minute with a goal through substitute Jeremy Shortt, after Marvin Faustin had missed a penalty.

In the shoot-out, former Trinidad & Tobago national team goalkeeper Michael Maurice saved two shots and watched a third hit a post to secure victory for Police.

EL SALVADOR

THE First Division table has a familiar name on top – Luis Angel Firpo. The perennial power still has not lost after nine matches.

An exciting 3-2 win over disappointing Alianza confirmed their intention to take back the championship. Mauricio Cienfuegos, Raul Diaz Arce and Fernando de Moura contributed goals in that victory.

EL SALVADOR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Luis Angel Firpo	9	5	4	0	14	5	14
FAS	9	5	2	2	18	9	12
Tiburones	9	4	3	2	11	9	11
Atletico Marte	9	3	4	2	13	11	10
El Roble	9	3	4	2	14	15	10
Aguila	8	2	5	1	15	8	9
ADET	8	2	4	2	13	14	8
Limeno	9	1	4	4	6	13	6
Alianza	9	1	3	5	13	15	5
Cojutepeque	9	0	3	6	6	24	3

HONDURAS

IN A match that neither team deserved to lose, Marathon defeated holders Real Maya 3-2 in sudden-death overtime, to win the Honduras Cup before 12,562 fans in San Pedro Sula. Otavio Santana, a Brazilian, registered all three of his team's goals, and Victor Zuniga scored both for Real.

HONDURAS — First Division

Group A: 1) Olimpia 12 pts; 2) Real Espana 4; 3) Real Maya 3; 4) Platense 2; 5) Victoria 1.

Group B: 1) Marathon, Motagua 7; 3) Vida 6; 4) Broncos, Progreso 1.

GUATEMALA — First Division

After 3 games *(3 pts for win):* 1) Comunicaciones 8; 2) Municipal 7; 3) Escuintla, Chiquimulilla, Xelaju, Izabal, Coban Imperial 4; 8) Mictlan, Amatitlan, Sacachispas 3; 11) Aurora, Suchitepequez 2.

SCOTT GLEBA

MARTINIQUE

CLUB Franciscain, one of the preseason favourites for the championship, beat 3-1 Racing Club in the Riviere Pilote derby and lead the table. US Robert retained second place despite a 2-2 draw with US Aiglon, champions of 1991.

MARTINIQUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Club Franciscain	3	3	0	0	7	1	9
US Robert	3	2	1	0	8	4	8
US Marinoise	3	2	0	1	8	7	7
Gauloise	3	1	2	0	4	3	7
JA Trenelle	3	1	1	1	5	3	6
US Aiglon	3	1	1	1	7	6	6
Samaritaine	3	1	1	1	2	2	6
RC Arlesien	3	1	1	1	3	5	6
US Rivereine	3	1	1	1	3	5	6
Excelsior	3	1	0	2	3	5	5
RC Rivere Pilote	3	1	0	2	2	4	5
Espoir	3	1	0	2	4	5	5
CS Case Pilote	3	0	1	2	4	7	4
Club Colonial	3	0	1	2	2	5	4

GUADELOUPE

AFTER four rounds of the championship, Red Star, named after the famous old Paris club, top the table on goal difference from newly-promoted Arsenal and Solidariwte Scolaire, champions two years ago.

Red Star drew at home with defending champions US Moulien 1-1. The hosts went into leading through Aglas in the first half but Moulien's Choucoutou managed to draw the level in the dying minutes of the game.

GUADELOUPE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Red Star	4	3	1	0	11	2	11
Arsenal	4	3	1	0	9	1	11
Solidarite Scolaire	4	3	1	0	8	1	11
US Moulien	4	2	2	0	5	1	10
Racing Club	4	2	2	0	8	5	10
Siroco	4	2	1	1	7	5	9
JS Abymes	4	1	3	0	4	3	9
Etoile	4	0	1	3	1	6	5
AS Gosier	4	0	1	3	2	9	5
Cygne Noir	4	0	1	3	3	10	5
Rapid Club	4	0	1	3	3	10	5
Jeunesse	4	0	1	3	2	10	5

GREGOR ZIEMINSKI

The men from nowhere

MIKE PLASTOW reports on Uzbekistan's astonishing debut at the Asian Games

UZBEKISTAN's victory at the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima heralded the start of a new era in Asian football.

The team arrived with literally no form. Their first match of the tournament, a 4-1 victory over Saudi Arabia, was the new country's first full international game. The Uzbekis never looked back, scoring 23 goals in seven matches and overcoming South Korea 1-0 in the semi-final. In the final, they beat China 4-2.

Turkmenistan also made an astonishing debut. Their first match was a 2-2 draw with eventual finalists China. That result was the more impressive for the fact that Turkmenistan arrived with only 11 players. Six others, including both goalkeepers, missed the flight from Moscow and only arrived in time for the second match. Midfielder Mingazou Kamil took over between the posts. The Turkmenis never lost to any older Asian side and eventually fell to Uzbekistan in the quarter-final.

"We have two great causes for celebrations," said Uzbekistan manager Rustam Akramov. "One is that in these games we have become a member of the Asian football family. The second is that we won."

The results left everyone wondering what will happen when Kazhakstan, Tajikstan and Kirghizstan decide to join in – especially since Australia and New Zealand might also be involved with the Asian qualifying zone for the 1998 World Cup.

But Akramov was upbeat: "We can expect great developments for Asian football. It is too early to talk about domination. This should be good for the Asian game."

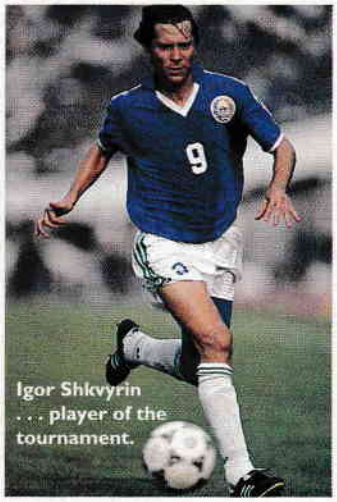
Uzbekistan champions, Neftchi, had six members in the national squad, while five came from Pakhtakor, the tractor team from Tashkent, who only finished sixth in the league last season but were known as the powerhouse of Uzbeki football during the days of the Soviet Union.

While Uzbekistan was represented as a state in the old Soviet Spartakiada, the present football team has no connection with that team. But there is no question about the foundations being strong. Neftchi regularly get crowds of 30-40,000. The Uzbeki team were lifted by three expatriate players: midfielder Mirzhalol Kozymov, of Spartak Vladikavkaz in Russia; centre-forward, Igor Shkvyrin, who has spent the last two years at Hapoel Tel-Aviv and Maccabi Haifa in Israel; and striker Azamat Abduraimov, who plays his football with Pahang in Malaysia.

Shkvyrin was discovered by Akramov at a minor team 12 years ago. Akramov trained him up at Pakhtakor, but hadn't seen him play since his star pupil went to Israel. Such is the trust between the two, that Akramov was satisfied when Shkvyrin told him he was fit over the phone. Shkvyrin arrived back in Uzbekistan the day before the departure for Japan, and his goals during the tournament were a rich reward for Akramov's faith in him.

Uzbekistan swept past the Saudis in that opening match. But the Saudis had their eyes on the Gulf Cup, and only brought an under-23 side. The Uzbekis' true strength only became apparent in the second game, when Malaysia were routed 5-0. They then eased past Hong Kong and Thailand, resting several senior players for that final group game.

The big test came in the semi-final against South Korea. Keeper Yuri Sheikin performed heroics in goal as almost the entire game was played in Uzbekistan's penalty area. South Korea launched 27 shots against only four for Uzbekistan. But Abduraimov's long effort decided the day.



Igor Shkvyrin . . . player of the tournament.

Champions are Uz! The Uzbekis celebrate.

Then it was back to the regular attacking format for the final. Shkvyrin netted in the first minute. A Kosymov free kick found Favzi Davletov free on the right; his cross reached Shkvyrin five metres out. Sergei Lebedev added a second in the eighth minute.

China didn't give up. Hu Zhijun pulled one back soon after, but Uzbekistan stayed in control throughout. Two minutes after the break, Abduraimov was tripped in the area and scored from the spot. Li Bing responded with China's second immediately, but the game was finally put out of reach in the 81st minute by Shukhrat Maksudov.

The traditional top teams of Asia were all over-shadowed by the Central Asian presence. Asia is no longer a battlefield for the Far East and Far West.

The shockwaves from the collapse of the Soviet Union were also visible on the coaching front. With Valeri Lobanovski at Kuwait and Anatoli Byshovets in charge of South Korea, three of the four semi-finalists were coached by former Soviet citizens.

Bronze-medalists Kuwait looked fully recovered from the trauma of the Gulf War and brought a well-balanced side. The emphasis was on defence and counter-attack, but with speedy players like Obaid Al-Shemmari, Ali Al-Hadiyah, Wail Al-Habashi and Fawaz Al-Ahmad in the team, they knew how to score. Their tally included eight against Nepal. A lot has been achieved since Valeri Lobanovski took over in January. With over two years left on his contract, Lobanowski's Kuwait look set to make a serious challenge in 1998.

South Korea, who Kuwait beat 2-1 for the bronze medal, attacked vigorously throughout the tournament. Almost uniquely in the history of such tournaments, the top scorer was virtually decided on the very first day when South Korea's Hwang Sung-Hong scored eight in the 11-0 drubbing of Nepal. His final total was 11. Nepal had seven players down with colds that day, including their goalkeeper. That result notwithstanding, South Korea's play was undermined by poor finishing throughout.

China, coached by Qi Wusheng and Klaus Schlappner, whose contract expires in December, came within a whisker of winning their first major title but were let down, conversely, by uneven defending. There was also some interesting experimentation up front, with full-back Li Bing converting successfully to centre-forward.

1992 Asian Cup-winners Japan suffered, as anticipated, from lack of preparation, but can count themselves unlucky to have fallen to an injury-time penalty against South Korea in the quarter-final. After the final, Uzbekistan skipper Farkhod Magometov said that his greatest regret was that he hadn't been able to experience Japanese-style football.

1990 Asian Games champions Iran had a depressing tournament. Star striker Ali Daai was badly injured in the very first match, receiving a kick in the kidneys which required a four-hour operation. They drew with Bahrain and Tukmenistan, beat Yemen 4-0 and lost 1-0 to China. It wasn't enough. China and Tukmenistan advanced from the group.

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UZBEKISTAN

THE MANAGER

Rustam AKRAMOV
A theorist with more than 30 academic texts on football to his name.

THE PLAYERS

Yuri SHEIKIN
Aged 31. Club: Pakhtakor. Goalkeeper. Heroics in semi-final.

Favzi DAVLETOV
22, Central Army. Speedy right-back who initiated many of the team's best moves. Only missed quarter-final.

Andrei FEDEROV
23, Neftchi. The sweeper. Many key tackles at dangerous moments against South Korea in the semi-final.

Mirzhalol KOSYMOV
24, Spartak Vladikavkas (Russia). The midfield playmaker. A former USSR youth international.

Farkhod MAGOMETOV
32, Navbakhor. Central defender and inspirational skipper. Sub against Thailand, but started all other matches.

Ilkhom SHARIPOV
26, Pakhtakor. Midfielder. Two yellow cards ruled him out of the final.

Abdukakhor MARUFALIEV
23, Pakhtakor. Midfielder. Started against Thailand. Sub in the final.

Sergei LEBEDEV
24, Neftchi. Left-sided midfielder. Played first three games, then in and out.

Igor SHKVYRIN
31, Maccabi Haifa (Israel). Centre-forward. The main target man and the team's top scorer with eight.

Azamat ABDURAIMOV
28, Pahang (Malaysia). Forward. Son of one of the greats of Uzbek football, Beradar Abduraimov. Four goals.

Shukhrat MAKSUDOV
24, Pakhtakor. Forward. Top scorer last season in Uzbekistan.

Rustam DURMANOV
28, Neftchi. Left-sided midfielder. Played first four games only. Two goals against Malaysia.

Abdusamat DURMANOV
25, Neftchi. Right-sided midfielder. Younger brother of Rustam. Played the whole of the final.

Ulugbek RUZIMOV
26, Pakhtakor. Central defender. His presence was vital in the semi-final and again in the final.

Stepan ATOYAN
28, Neftchi. Midfielder. Did not play due to injury.

Berdakh ALLANIYAZOV
26, Aral (Nukus). Reserve goalkeeper. Played only against Thailand.

Alexandr TIKHONOV
29, Neftchi. Left-back. Played every match except against Thailand.

ASIAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

THE defending champions and two previous title-holders fill three of the four places in the East Asia region quarter-finals of the 14th Asian Club Championship.

The champions, Thai Farmers Bank, were awarded a bye in the first round and a walkover in the second when their opponents Calcutta's Mohan Bagan, refused to play at a neutral venue in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Thai Farmers were due to host the first leg, but the Indians were unable to find accommodation because of the plague threat. The Farmers had been refused permission to travel to Calcutta for the second leg.

Japanese champions Verdy Kawasaki, winners in 1987, beat Hong Kong's Eastern 6-4 on aggregate to book their place in the quarter-finals. Brazilian midfielder Bismarck scored all the goals in Verdy's 4-3 home win.

Ilhwa Chonma, founded as recently as 1988 and Korean champions for the first time last year, beat Pelita Java of Indonesia 5-1 on aggregate and now hope to become the second Korean club to win the Asian championship following Daewoo Royals in 1985.

The fourth quarter-finalists from the East Asia section are China's Liaoning, Asian champions in 1989. Liaoning had a man sent off as they slipped to a 1-0 defeat in Thailand against Bangkok Bank of Commerce, but a 4-1 home victory had virtually guaranteed their progress.

The four winners will now converge on one venue, as yet undecided, for a round-robin series. The top two will then join the leading two clubs from West Asia in the semi-finals in January.

The four quarter-finalists from West Asia are Neftchi (Uzbekistan), Al-Arabi (Qatar), Al-Wasl (UAE) and Ansar (Lebanon).

Uzbekistan champions Neftchi beat Saipa of Iran on away goals, after a 2-2 draw in Teheran and a 1-1 score in Fergana.

Al-Arabi were held to a 4-4 draw by Mirbat in Oman, but had won the first leg 5-0.The other two second-round ties were decided on penalty kicks after Al-Wasl and West Rifa (Bahrain) and Ansar and Al-Shabab (Saudi Arabia) had finished at 3-3.

The Asian Cup Winners' Cup also is at the quarter-final stage.

In the western section, Saudi Arabia's Al Ittihad meet Al Saad (Qatar), and Al-Sha'ab (UAE) face Navard Loreh (Iran).

CHARLIE CHARTERS

CHINA

GUANGZHOU striker Hu Zhijun was quickly back into the scoring groove when the National League resumed following a seven-week break for the Asian Games in Japan. Hu, the 23-year-old pin-up boy of Chinese football, scored twice in Guangzhou's 3-0 victory over Shenyan to keep the pressure on the leaders, Dalian, who beat Guangdong 1-0. With three rounds of matches to go in the inaugural professional season, Dalian have 28 points from 19 games, Guangzhou 26 and Liaoning 23.

SOUTH KOREA

CHAMPIONS ILHWA CHONMA have opened up a seven-point gap at the top. They have 47 points from 24 matches, seven clear of Yukong Elephants, who have played one game more. Jeon-Buk Buffaloes, finding life difficult in their debut season, are bottom of the table. They were beaten 4-1 in their most recent outing by Yukong, with 1990 World Cup marksman Hwang Bo-kwan scoring a second-half hat-trick.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ilhwa Chonma	24	13	8	3	36	22	47
Yukong Elephants	25	11	7	7	37	27	40
Hyundai Horan-I	26	9	12	5	31	24	39
Posco Atoms	26	9	11	6	38	31	38
Lucky-Goldstar	25	9	7	9	42	42	34
Daewoo Royals	25	6	6	13	34	47	24
Jeon-Buk Buffaloes	25	3	5	17	29	54	14

HONG KONG

EASTERN, bidding for a third successive Hong Kong championship, have made a solid start to the new season. After drawing 1-1 with Instant-Dict, they beat Kitchee 3-0 thanks to a hat-trick from summer signing Ian McParland, the former Notts County striker.

CHARLIE CHARTERS

KUWAIT

OUTSIDERS Tadamon caused a surprise by reaching the final of the Emir's Cup in Kuwait, but were beaten 2-0 by Al Qadsia. Tadamon seemed exhausted after their efforts in the semi-final five days earlier, when they beat the holders, Al Salmiya, 2-1.

Goals by international defender Nasser Al-Bnayyan in the first half and midfielder Ali Al-Soweyhi in the second clinched Al Qadsia's victory. It was their ninth success in the competition – a record.

SAUDI ARABIA

JORGE SOLARI, whose Saudi Arabian squad performed so well in the World Cup, has lost his job as national coach. No reason was revealed by the soccer authorities, but Solari has been replaced by Mohamed Al Harashi –who is in charge for the second time in a year. In October last year Al Harashi took over as caretaker manager from the Brazilian Jose Candido. Dutchman Leo Beenhakker took over, but was dismissed in February and replaced by Solari.

Al Harashi's first test will be the Gulf Cup in November. His squad of 22 is much as before, the only major omission being Majed Abdullah, who has decided to retire from international competition.

QATAR

AL SAAD have won the Emir's Cup in Qatar for a record eighth time, despite giving Al Arabi a two-goal start in the final. Brazilian Marco Antonio scored from a penalty after only three minutes, and Salah Al-Mulla put Al Arabi two up midway through the first half. Iranian import Issac Dabra gave Al Saad renewed hope with a goal in the last minute of the first half, and repeated that feat in the last minute of the second half, to force extra time. Al Arabia then had defender Nasser Ibrahim sent off, and a goal by Khaled Al-Merrikhi in 97th minutes gave Al Saad victory.

MOHAMED CHBARO

SYRIA

THE youth team will represent Asia in the next World Youth Cup, to be held in Paraguay next year, after they won the Asian Under-21 Cup in Thailand. In the final they beat favourites Japan 2-0 in front of a 20,000 crowd. Manaf Ramadan scored both Syria's goals.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

For the first time since the Gulf Cup started Iraq will not be allowed to play in the tournament. UAE are hosting the event, which was halted four years ago following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Before the start Qatar announced their withdrawal in protest at being drawn against the host nation in the opening game. But after the intervention of Sheikh Handan, the son of the ruling Sheikh Zaied, the Qatari changed their minds.

OSAMA SADEK

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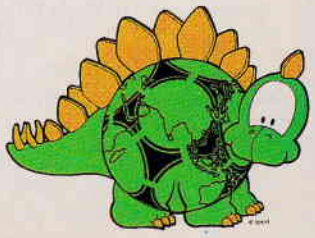


Cerezo and Reysol hit the big time

NERVES were frayed at the finish, but Cerezo Osaka and Kashiwa Reysol both won J. League status in an exciting finish to this year's Japan Football League.

The two teams had already satisfied the ground and other requirements, but had to finish in the top two in the JFL. The main challenge came from Fujieda Blux, a team which could not have been promoted this year but is eager to enter the J.League in 1996.

The J.League thus expands to 14 teams this season. Concurrent changes are anticipated to the format, in order to prevent fixture congestion. A proposal is now on the table to scrap the two stage system in favour of a league to last the whole season. Teams would play each other only three times, instead of four.

Cerezo set a hot pace in the early part of the season, losing only to Reysol on penalties. But the cracks began to show as the goal drew near.

Cerezo's star . . . Brazilian ace Moura.

The Osaka side had to soak up another loss to Reysol as well as 3-2 defeats against both Tokyo Gas and Futures before finally clinching promotion with a dramatic 1-0 win over Fujieda Blux with one game to spare. Mitsuhiro Misaki netted the winner three minutes from the end of extra time.

Brazilian manager Paulo Emilio Frossard Jorge spoke early in the season of his steady, team-oriented approach. "I build a team the same way as I would build a build," he said. "Football is not about individual players. The parts have to be assembled."

He worked an amazing job at Cerezo, formerly Yanmar Diesel, who finished only seventh in last year's JFL. But in his own words, he has only just begun: "I am pleased to have achieved what I came for in only one year. But I still haven't built the kind of football team I'm aiming for. This year's goal has to get into the J.League. Now I want to build a team that can win it in two years."

The team is Brazilian through and through, with sparkling work by full-backs Misaki, Katsuo Kanda and Akimasa Tsukamoto. The defence is marshalled by Toninho from Cruzeiro, aided by Kazuhiro Murata and Satoshi Kajino. Incision in attack is provided by Brazilians Moura and Marquinhos, with 22-year-old Hiroaki Morishima picking up any slack. Two veterans, Tomoo Kudaka (31) from Gamba Osaka and Hirokazu Sasaki (32) from Verdy Kawasaki, are available to add steadiness to central midfield when needed.

Cerezo Osaka show that the big money is still drawn to the J.League. The club is 60 per cent owned by three large Osaka companies: Yanmar Diesel, Capcom and Nippon Ham. Nippon Ham also own a professional baseball team. Other backers include Osaka Gas, Obayashi (a construction company), Kansai Electric, Daiwa Bank, the JR West railway company and no fewer than eight broadcasting companies. A 50,000-capacity stadium is planned at Nagai in Osaka, to be completed in 1996. And with neighbours Gamba Osaka rooted on the bottom of the J.League, Cerezo should have no trouble picking up fans.

Cerezo's stadium . . . the planned, 50,000-capacity arena in Nagai.

But the best supported team in this year's JFL, home and away, was Kashiwa Reysol. Kashiwa benefitted from the Careca effect, but the city got behind them to an extent that leaves most J.League teams jealous. The city centre was bedecked with yellow and black flags every match day, and all games felt like a Cup tie.

Reysol also have a Brazilian manager, 37-year-old Ze Sergio. He started the season aiming to reach the J.League on the shoulders of youth. But as Reysol seemed in danger of falling behind the pace, he made a complete turnaround. Veteran national team players Koichi Hasiratani (Urawa Red Diamonds) and Tetsuya Totsuka (Verdy Kawasaki) were brought in to reinforce midfield. Both, like Careca and full-back Tomoyuki Kajino (elder brother of Cerezo's Satoshi), are 33-years old. The goal was achieved, but this reliance on older players could cause problems in next year's J.League.

Reysol beat Cerezo and Blux in the run-up to promotion, but a 3-1 defeat to fast-improving Futures followed by a loss on penalties to Kawasaki Steel made them wait till the final day, when Careca scored the winner in the nail-biting 1-0 win over NIT Kanto. As it turned out, Reysol could have lost that one too, as Blux went down 3-0 to Futures in their last match.

Wim Jansen for Sanfrecce

JAPAN's roll-call of the greats of football history is still growing. The newest name is Wim Jansen, the 48-year-old Dutch veteran of the 1974 and 1978 World Cups.

Jansen takes over at Sanfrecce Hiroshima when Stuart Baxter's contract expires at the end of the season. In recent years, Jansen has been technical director at Feyenoord and also worked briefly with the Saudi Arabian team before this year's World Cup.

Sanfrecce said when announcing that Baxter's contract would not be renewed, despite his success with the club, that they were looking for a person to lead them to the global level. Whether the traditions of Total Football can do the trick, as they so nearly did for the national team under Hans Ooft, remains to be seen, but Sanfrecce have certainly found a world-famous name.

Baxter now takes over at Kawasaki Steel in Kobe, who have just changed their name to Vessel Kobe — Kobe, you see, is a port city. Vessel play in the Japan Football League. They have given Baxter a two year contract, and hope he can lead them into the J.League.

It is also expected that Nagoya Grampus Eight will sign a Dutch manager to replace Gordon Milne. Negotiations with Guus Hiddink, the man who led PSV Eindhoven to the European Champions Cup, are very advanced. If so, that will make three Dutch managers in the J.League, including Ooft at Jubilo.

Yokohama Marinos are hoping that Jorge Solari will revive their fortunes. Solari, coach of Saudi Arabia this summer, has been signed as advisor on a three-month contract from October to December. Solari watched Marinos play live in October and is now sending advice from Argentina, where he studies games on video.

On the national team front, it has been confirmed that Falcao's contract will not be renewed. That seems harsh after only seven months in the job during the busy J.League season. Japan's performance in reaching the quarter-final of the Asian Games was respectable under the circumstances. But the Japanese still don't give much credit for honourable defeat.

The man approached to replace Falcao is Shu Kamo, manager of Yokohama Flugels. He knows the players well, but will have his work cut out to build a new team for the Intercontinental Cup in January.

Bismarck conquers

VERDY KAWASAKI and Bellmare Hiratsuka continued their game of hopscotch at the top when the J.League resumed after the Asian Games. Both teams stumbled but even so extended their lead as third-placed Yokohama Marinos lost their two opening matches.

Bismarck was again the hero for Verdy. After netting four against Eastern Athletics of Hong Kong earlier in the week, he scored two against Marinos in the match which put the champions back in front.

Verdy looked troubled without Tetsuji Hashiratani and Tsuyoshi Kitazawa, both injured during the Asian Games. When the League resumed, it was Salvatore Schillaci who stole the show, leading Jubilo Iwata to the 2-1 victory which knocked Verdy off the top.

But Kitazawa returned against Marinos and Bismarck gave the champions the edge. The 25-year-old Brazilian, signed last year from Vasco da Gama, may not be the league's biggest name but for the second year in a row he looks well set to lead Verdy to the Nicos Series. Bellmare were let down that day by poor finishing in the 2-1 defeat to JEF United Ichihara.

The man who Yokohama Marinos cannot do without is David Bisconti. After injury to Gustavo Zapata let Bisconti back into the side, Marinos raced to a record of eight wins against only two defeats, and the series seemed to be within their grasp. Bisconti is the only man on the team who can enliven fellow Argentinian forwards Ramon Diaz and Ramon Medina Bello.

But Bisconti was suspended for the next four matches after being sent off in the derby with Yokohama Flugels, and Marinos have now crashed to four straight defeats. Other key players have also been suspended at a rate of one or two per match. Marinos must improve their disciplinary record as a matter of urgency. But it is the absence of Argentinian international Bisconti that hurts the most.

Verdy's hero . . . Brazilian striker Bismarck.

Asian rivals . . . Verdy's Hironga (left) takes on Eastern's Greer.

Verdy cruise

VERDY KAWASAKI looked less than serious as they cruised past Eastern Athletics of Hong Kong into the semi-final group of the 14th Asian Club Championship.

Verdy, who finished third in last year's championship with the reserve team, did at least field their top players this time. The club's national team stars were away on national duty for the first match, but first-half goals by Brazilians Bentinho and Bismarck led the Japanese to a 2-1 win in Hong Kong. Top scorer Dale Tempest replied for the home side in the second half.

The return match at Tokyo's National Stadium was a sloppy affair lit up only by the individual brilliance of Bismarck. Verdy rested national team players Tetsuji Hashiratani and Tsuyoshi Kitazawa, but otherwise used their strongest team. Eastern, for their part had lost strikers Tempest and Cheng Siu Sun Ching to injuries, and also national team defender Chan Chi Keung.

Verdy quickly raced to a three goal lead, with two penalties and a long shot all converted by Bismarck, and then went to sleep. Another long strike by Bismarck in the second half eased them to a 4-3 win, advancing 6-4 on aggregate.

All credit to Eastern's scorers Cheung Sheung Fai, Chiu Chun Ming and Ian McParland for trying to make a game of it. But one does wonder when the Japanese will be able to start taking Asian club football seriously. Verdy manager Yasutaro Matsuki could only answer that it all depends on the schedule. Once again, the heavy J.League programme is likely to take its toll.

RESULTS

J.LEAGUE — NICOS SERIES (SECOND STAGE)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 3 (Edu 32, Maeda 61, Valber 68)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 1 (Takagi 44).
Att: 49,650.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Noguchi 5, Betinho 88)
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Hasegawa 74).
Att: 15,200.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 2 (Ishii 1, Kurosaki 67).
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 1 (Miura 77).
Att: 15,216.

JUBILO IWATA 2 (Schillaci 36, Yonezawa 100).
VERDY KAWASAKI 1 (Bentinho 44).
Att: 15,078.

GAMBA OSAKA 5 (Karashima 59, Aleinikov 67, Yamaguchi 77, 79, Protasov 85)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 3 (Garca 11, Jorginho 51, Ogura 61). **Att:** 17,330.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 3 (Luhovy 69, og 89, Rummenigge 102)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 2 (Shin 2, Ordenewitz 64). **Att:** 10,915.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 0
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 3 (Valber 11, 65, Edu 44). **Att:** 24,817.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 3 (Hasegawa 26,89, Naito 66)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Kurosaki 3).
Att: 18,160.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 1 (Noh 31).
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0. **Att:** 15,903.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0
VERDY KAWASAKI 2 (Bismarck 35, 88).
Att: 49,243.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 2 (Sandro 7, Nakanishi 60)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 1 (Noguchi 86).
Att: 14,635.

GAMBA OSAKA 1 (Yamaguchi 60)
JUBILO IWATA 1 (Yonezawa 35). **Att:** 34,849
Gamba won 5-4 on pens

J.LEAGUE — NICOS SERIES

	P	W	L	F	A
Verdy Kawasaki	14	11	3	30	18
Bellmare Hiratsuka	14	10	4	31	18
Yokohama Flugels	14	8	6	26	17
Yokohama Marinos	14	8	6	21	15
Sanfrecce Hiroshima	14	8	6	19	19
Shimizu S Pulse	14	7	7	18	19
Jubilo Iwata	14	7	7	19	28
Kashima Antlers	14	6	8	25	22
JEF United Ichihara	14	5	9	26	33
Nagoya Grampus Eight	14	5	9	26	34
Urawa Red Diamonds	14	5	9	20	31
Gamba Osaka	14	4	10	18	25

LEADING SCORERS

1	Ordenewitz (JEF Utd Ichihara)	27
2	Alcindo (Kashima Antlers)	22
3	Tonho (Shimizu S-Pulse)	20
4	Takeda (Verdy Kawsaki)	19
5	Hasek (Sanfrecce Hiroshima)	18
6	Diaz (Yokohama Marinos)	17
	Betinho (Bellmare Hiratsuka)	17
8	Hasegawa (Kashima Antlers)	16
	Miura (Verdy Kawasaki)	16
	Noguchi (Bellmare Hiratsuka)	16

JAPAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE — FINAL TABLE

	P	W	L	F	A
Cerezo Osaka	30	16	4	85	33
Kashiwa Reysol	30	25	5	82	29
Fujieda Blux	30	24	6	61	32
PJM Futures	30	22	8	70	47
Kyoto Sanga	30	20	10	63	47
Otsuka Seiyaku	30	18	12	63	46
Tokyo Gas	30	18	12	55	43
Kawasaki Steel	30	13	17	36	46
Honda	30	12	19	49	62
Fujitsu	30	11	19	39	52
Toshiba	30	11	19	56	71
NTT Kanto	30	10	20	37	46
NEC Yamagata	30	10	20	30	57
Kofu Club	30	9	21	36	74
Cosmo Oil	30	7	23	33	67
Seino	30	4	26	29	72

Back in action . . . Verdy forward Kitazawa.

Havelange's revenge

MONEY AND POWER, not football, were the dominating themes when the FIFA Executive Council sat down to redraw the world football map in New York.

A greatly simplified balance sheet for the 1994 World Cup was distributed, with all the totals in millions of Swiss francs. All except one: the 624,000 dollars spent on doping control. A figure that, thanks to Diego Maradona, is likely to also be in the millions next time around.

In round figures, FIFA's total 1994 World Cup receipts amounted to $235million, made up of $84million as its share of ticket sales, $91million from TV rights, and $60million from sponsorship deals. Of this figure, FIFA keeps $44.5million.

When other expenses totalling $91million – such as paying for the transport and lodging of the 24 teams and the referees during the tournament, insurance – have been subtracted, the surplus receipts total $99.5million. This is the gravy figure, almost $100million to be distributed to the World Cup organisers and participants.

It is divided, according to a pre-fixed formula, into two parts. The smaller share of 30 per cent ($29,820,000) goes to the American Organizing Committee. The other 70 per cent ($69,680,000) is divided by 52 (the total number of games) making each game worth $1,340,000, each team thus receiving $670,000 per game (in Italy, in 1990, the figure was $500,000 per game).

Top dogs . . . the FIFA Executive Council.

All games, whether first round, or the Final, are worth the same amount. Thus, South Korea, knocked out in the first round, will receive 3 x $670,000, a total $2,010,000. The US, for playing four games, get $2,680,000. While the seven games played by finalists Italy and Brazil bring $4,690,000 to each of those countries.

Handing out millions of dollars of World Cup profits to grateful recipients was a process surrounded by smiles. But when it came to handing out the eight new berths in the 32-team World Cup in France 1998, the atmosphere at the FIFA meeting changed dramatically.

The president of the African confederation, Issa Hayatou, issued a veiled threat before the voting, saying he could not predict what would happen if Africa did not get two of the eight berths. Asia wanted two, CONCACAF and South America expected at least one each leaving only two for the 'new' Europe, with its growing number of nations.

Now, if you listen to FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter, sweet reason prevailed: "There was no rivalry, no fighting. There was a general consensus." The gossip around the hotel lobby said otherwise. "It was not cordial, it was very combative," said CONCACAF's President Jack Warner.

Africa got its two seats, giving it a total of five places. Europe, apparently, came off worst, getting only two more berths. But there was a suggestion of deals, that Europe had supported Africa, with the understanding that African votes would later support Europe. Possibly when it is time to elect a new President in 1998 – or will it be 2000?

Joao Havelange, the 78-year-old Brazilian (that's right, 78) who has ruled FIFA since 1974 says he will definitely step down from the presidency in 1998. But he feels that the presidential elections should no longer be held at the same time as the World Cup. Too much mixing of politics and sports.

He suggests an interim president, chosen from the executive council, to reign between 1998 and 2000. The idea has a lot to commend it. But those suspicious of Havelange's increasingly high-handed methods see a danger. They think he will manoeuvre another Brazilian, Ricardo Teixeira, into the interim spot, giving him all sorts of advantages in the 2000 election.

Teixeira, of course, just happens to be Havelange's son-in-law. Someone

The seven million dollar man

If you thought Brazil were the only winners of the 1994 World Cup, think again. It was revealed recently that US soccer supremo Alan Rothenberg pocketed a staggering seven million dollars for his work on USA '94. Paul Gardner reports

NOW WE HAVE spectacular proof that Alan Rothenberg knew what he was talking about.

For four years he has been asserting that the 1994 World Cup would be the "greatest, most successful" tournament ever. And so it was – at least as far as Rothenberg's personal bank balance was concerned.

The money earned by Rothenberg for his work on World Cup '94 came out at $7million – a salary of $4million (a five year contract at $800,000 a year), plus a $3million bonus.

Seven million dollars – a staggering sum. Assuredly more than any other World Cup chief has pocketed from the World Cup. And quite definitely more than anyone else in the USA has ever made out of soccer. The combined compensation of Pele and Franz Beckenbauer during their years with the New York Cosmos – a total of seven playing years – did not add up to $7million. The usual state of affairs in this country is for soccer investors to lose, rather than make, money.

The $7million is also quite a bit more than the bonuses received by the other top World Cup executives. Of the three other members of the executive committee ('key executives' as they're called), chief operating officer Scott LeTellier got a bonus of $500,000; executive vice-president Marla Messing got $350,000, and chief administrative officer Eli Primrose-Smith received $250,000.

A further $1million was distributed as 'discretionary bonuses' among other staff members, plus $10million in 'incentives' (another word for bonuses) to employees, not to exceed 10 per cent of their cumulative salary.

American soccer has never experienced anything even remotely similar to this money-saturated World Cup. The gross surplus to the World Cup '94 Organizing Committee was more than $70million. Of that, approximately $30million was disbursed as follows:

$11,000,000 to the United States Soccer Federation and its state associations for services rendered;

$5,000,000 in bonuses;

$6,300,000 in incentives;

$7,700,000 in 'salary continuation' under which employees were paid for anything from two weeks to six months after the end of the World Cup.

The remaining $40million is the so-called legacy money. It goes into a fund to be administered by an ostensibly independent body set up specifically for this purpose, the United States Soccer Federation Foundation, and is to be used for the development of the sport in the US.

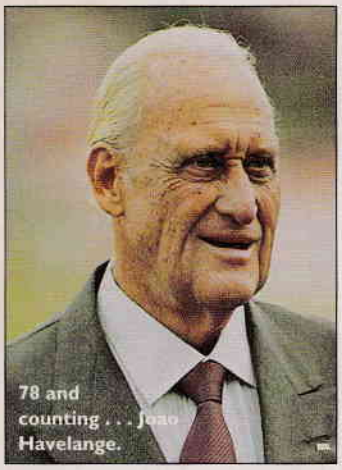
The $40million is double the figure of $20million that Rothenberg had been cautiously predicting. Substantial thanks for that higher figure can be given to Graham Taylor for failing to qualify England for the tournament – a failure that relieved the Organizing Committee of millions of dollars of security expenses.

That Rothenberg made a major contribution to the success of World Cup '94 is not in doubt. His prodigious work schedule has been a source of constant wonderment. Taken on its own, the $800,000 a year salary is reasonable. But the addition of a $3million bonus has raised many eyebrows and dropped many jaws. Seven million dollars begins to look excessive.

Evidently, the possibility that things would be viewed in that light did not escape Rothenberg or his advisers. But trying to avoid drawing attention to the $7million figure, they committed a major public relations gaffe, and made matters worse.

The announcement came on October 18, from the World Cup's board of directors. It detailed the bonus payments but said nothing about Rothenberg's salary. This led many – including some top newspapers – to assume that there was to be no salary. After all, in 1991 Rothenberg refused to accept a salary, saying that the World Cup board of directors had agreed that he would eventually be compensated "as deemed fair under the circumstances".

In December 1993, he took a $500,000 advance against that future



78 and counting . . . João Havelange.

he can trust. And Havelange evidently feels that he is running out of people he can trust within his own organisation. He is still smarting at the behind-the-scenes plotting and whispering which went on before this year's presidential election in June.

At that time, there was a mountain of rumours that a concerted opposition was building up to Havelange, that it involved Sepp Blatter, that the various confederations were doing deals and counting votes, in the expectation that Havelange would be defeated, or simply talked out of running.

But the old man crushed all the opposition. No one dared stand up to him, and he was elected unopposed. But with a damaging legacy of mistrust, and a smoldering desire for revenge.

That motif surfaced brutally in New York.

At the FIFA executive committee meeting Havelange, ruling with his usual steely grip, postponed discussion of new appointments to the various FIFA Committees. Then, right at the end of the meeting, he brought the matter up – by giving each member a copy of a document listing the new committees.

Havelange himself had restructured the new committees in private and had not, apparently, used the FIFA staff to have the photocopies made.

Immediately after the lists had been distributed, Havelange declared them approved, and closed the meeting. No discussion, no vote – and no protests. The autocrat had triumphed again.

Banished from the committees were the people who Havelange evidently saw as the foci for the abortive attempt to unseat him: the secretaries of the confederations. Full time employees, influential people: Peter Velappan of Asia, Gerd Aigner of Europe, Chuck Blazer of CONCACAF, Mustapha Fahmy of Africa.

Their punishment would mean less travel . . . meaning less ability to meet and conspire?

Perhaps the biggest shock came with the dismissal of the Italian Paolo Casarin from the referees' committee. Casarin, the head of the Italian referees, has been widely praised for his attempts to upgrade the standard of refereeing, and for his meticulous research on the subject. Widely praised by the wrong people, perhaps.

Casarin's biggest backer within FIFA was Sepp Blatter. His exit looks like a warning from Havelange to Blatter.

To complete his gutting of the committee, Havelange threw out two other respected referees, Karoly Palotai and Alexis Ponnet, and replaced the deputy chairman, the Brazilian Abilio D'Almeida. Well, D'Almeida is 84 years old.

His replacement is another Brazilian, only 47 years old . . . Ricardo Teixeira.

PAUL GARDNER

FIFA WORLD CUP 1994 ACCOUNTS
(all in US dollars):

Receipts

Ticket sales	84,000,000
Television rights	91,000,000
Sponsorship	60,000,000
TOTAL	235,000,000

Expenses

FIFA organisation (19%)	44,643,416
Development fund (5%)	11,763,004
Grant to US organisers (9%)	21,146,717
Special fund (1%)	2,368,600
Cost of grounds, taxes (11%)	25,283,000
Contingencies reserve (2%)	1,838,021
Teams' preparation costs	5,624,369
Teams' travelling costs	2,458,007
Teams' board and lodging	5,544,552
Refereeing/match officials	7,524,449
Doping control	633,983
Insurance	6,671,882
TOTAL	135,500,000

Surplus receipts 99,500,000

Surplus receipts divided as follows:

US Organizing Committee (30%)	29,820,000
24 World Cup Finalist nations (70%)	69,680,000
(670,000 per team per game played)	

Montreal make an Impact

MONTREAL IMPACT are the new champions of the American Professional Soccer League.

They defeated the Colorado Foxes, champions for the past two seasons, in the play-off final. The only goal of the game was scored by US international striker Jean Harbor in the 20th minute.

Montreal, who had finished third in the regular season, defeated the second-placed Los Angeles Salsa in the two-leg semi-final, while Colorado beat the first-placed Seattle Sounders.

The final was played before a crowd of 8,159 at Montreal's Claude Robillard Stadium. The Montreal line-up included nine players with Canadian international experience at some level, while Colorado had Mark Dodd, one of a number of goalkeepers who have played for the US in recent years, in goal, and another US international, Ted Ecks leading the attack.

- The APSL, with four American teams and three Canadian sides, will become US Soccer's Second Division next season when Major League Soccer is scheduled to start. The United States Interregional Soccer League will be the Third Division.
- The application of Los Angeles Salsa, second in the APSL, to play in the next Mexican 'A' division next season has been turned down by CONCACAF.

COLIN JOSE

In the money . . . Eli Primrose-Smith.

compensation. But the *Los Angeles Times* quickly revealed the truth of the matter: Rothenberg was getting $7million. Now it looked as though he had been trying to mislead the media. "I won't trust those guys again," was the comment of the embittered sports editor of a major newspaper.

Rothenberg's image has undergone an overnight change, for the worse. Up until now, he had been a buoyant, smiling, dynamic, personality, an excellent public speaker, radiant on television. Simpatico, in a word. Not any more. From now on, he will be known as Mr Seven Million. His image within the soccer community has been greatly, possibly fatally, damaged.

The vast majority of people involved in soccer in the US are volunteers, who put many hours of unpaid work into the sport. The sight of one man taking $7million from their sport is not going to go down well with them. Many of those people worked on the World Cup – as volunteers. By the Organizing Committee's own estimate "more than 10,000 volunteers" were involved, many of them doing highly specialised and responsible work.

Three weeks after the end of the World Cup, Rothenberg took space in the press to publicly thank the "unselfish dedication of the soccer family and volunteers" that had contributed to the success of the World Cup.

But when, two and a half months later, the bonus announcement was made, there was no mention of volunteers. The head of the World Cup Compensation Committee, Peter Ueberroth, stated: "The success of this event is a direct result of the dedicated effort of a team of tremendous employees and the vision and leadership of their Chairman Alan Rothenberg."

Yet the huge surplus produced by the 1994 World Cup would not have been possible without the – unpaid – efforts of those 10,000 volunteers. If each of them had received a $2000 bonus – decidedly puny by Rothenberg standards – $20million would have disappeared from the legacy total.

Nor has Rothenberg's image been improved by the simultaneous fiasco over the launching of a pro league, Major League Soccer.

The past few months have been crowded with assurances and optimistic statements from Rothenberg that the MLS would start operations, as scheduled, in April 1995.

Any suggestion that time had run out, that the start would have to be delayed, was airily dismissed by Rothenberg: "No I haven't considered a delay – why should I, when there's not going to be a delay?"

But the assurances now look empty, even devious. There will be a delay. And there is a danger that the scepticism that Rothenberg's misplaced, and misleading, optimism has engendered, will deepen into a belief that the MLS will never get off the ground.

Rothenberg is no longer seen as the smiling man with the magic touch. No longer is he the saviour, the man who arrived in 1990, sponsored by FIFA, to save World Cup 94 from the hands of a USSF administration that FIFA saw as simply not up to the task.

His new image is that of a man who has profited enormously, indecently, from the sport of soccer, and who has now failed badly, at the most propitious moment, to launch the desperately needed pro soccer league.

Now people are now much more ready to remember that the MLS, should it become reality, will also serve as money-maker for Rothenberg. That its business plan calls for Rothenberg to run it at a salary of $1million a year, and that he would have a financial involvement in it. Much more ready to remember that Rothenberg had four years to prepare MLS, but was never willing, or able, in that time to name one major investor in the league.

Of the 12 cities that were supposed to be involved, only seven were named, and one of those – New York – proved a non-starter.

There has always been a shade of opinion within the soccer community that has viewed Rothenberg as nothing more than a carpet-bagger whose interest in soccer goes no further than his ability to make money out of it. The narrow margin of Rothenberg's victory in the recent USSF Presidential election was to a large extent a reflection of the discomfort that many USSF members feel about his role. And that election was held before Rothenberg's $7million haul was known.

For Rothenberg, the transformation from The Sainted Saviour of Soccer to Mr Seven Million Bucks has been quick and total. Of course, Rothenberg can laugh all the way to the bank about this but if he can't recover his popularity, he does need to regain his credibility.

DIARY

MON 3 OCT

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona is appointed unpaid coach by struggling Deportivo Mandiyu, pending FIFA clearance.
SWITZERLAND: FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter says the International Board's annual meeting next March will draw to settle on guidelines for use of video evidence.

TUE 4 OCT

FRANCE: Prime Minister Edouard Balladur decides in favour of the oval-shaped design for the new Paris stadium which will host the Final of the 1998 World Cup.
ITALY: Franco Baresi says he is retiring from the Italian national team – and this time his decision is final. Baresi has twice previously retired then returned.

WED 5 OCT

ACTION: A new defeat for Sao Paulo, this time by 2-1 by Colo Colo in Chile in the South American Supercup.
FRANCE: France's preparations for the European qualifier against Romania are disturbed by apparent criticism of skipper Eric Cantona's intellect by federation president Simmonet.
ROMANIA: Dinamo Bucharest discover a £1million shortfall in their accounts, eight months after the dismissal from the controlling Intwerior Ministry, on suspicion of fraud, of the club's former president and vice-president, Colonels Vasile Ianul and Augustin Deleanu.
UNITED STATES: Club owners in the American Professional Soccer League reject an overture from Major League Soccer to join forces, apparently ending any prospect of a merger to head off prospects of a damaging soccer civil war next year.

THU 6 OCT

ACTION: Italy beat Estonia 4-1 in a European under-21 group four qualifier with a hat-trick from Dionigi.
BELGIUM: National boss Paul Van Himst says he is unlikely to select veteran defender Michel De Wolf again after his French club, Marseille, refused to release him within the requisite five days. Charleroi's Eric Van Meir is called up instead.
GERMANY: Franz Beckenbauer is proposed as candidate for the Bayern Munich presidency by Bavaria's Prime Minister Edmund Stoiber, a senior official at the club, in an effort to avert a potentially damaging election fight between incumbent Fritz Scherer and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.
HOLLAND: Ajax's new star defender, Michael Reiziger, is included in Holland's squad for the European qualifier against Norway.
ITALY: Juventus midfielder Didier Deschamps is ruled out for two months by imminent surgery on both his achilles tendons after he Frenchman was injured in a UEFA Cup tie against CSKA Sofia.
PARAGUAY: The South American confederation decides to seek five places in the 1998 World Cup finals in France and an end to the inclusion of a South American team in the inter-continental 'lucky loser' play-offs.
UNITED STATES: Timo Liekoski, assistant US coach for the last two years under Bora Milutinovic, is appointed boss of the Olympic under-23 team for the run-up to the Atlanta Olympic Games.

FRI 7 OCT

BULGARIA: Lyubko Penev, who missed the World Cup finals because of cancer treatment, is called into Bulgaria's European Championship squad because of doubts regarding the fitness Coruna striker Emil Kostadinov.
JAPAN: Thailand captain Sirisak Kadalee become the first competitor at the Asian Games to test positive for drugs, failing a test after a 4-2 defeat by Saudi Arabia.
PORTUGAL: Sporting agree to pay £1.3million as recommended by FIFA for Nigerian World Cup striker Emmanuel Amunike to end a two-month tug of war with Germany's MSV Duisburg.
SWITZERLAND: UEFA ban Anders Roth of the Finnish club MyPa Anjalankoski for 10 cup matches following an incident in the first round of the European club events. Another 23 players are banned from between one to six games, including Robert Shannon (six) of Motherwell and Mirko Pavlicevic (four) of Aarau. Bulgarian club CSKA Sofia have their 3-2 win over Juventus in the UEFA Cup first round first leg turned into a 3-0 defeat because two-goal striker Petar Mihtarski had been ineligible.

SAT 8 OCT

ACTION: Three matches in the European qualifiers, with 0-0 draws between Armenia and Cyprus as well as between France and Romania. Italy win 2-0 away in Estonia . . . TPV Tampere secure the Finnish championship on the last day of the season. . . Barcelona beat Atletico Madrid 4-3.
GERMANY: Bayern Munich officials decide that Franz Beckenbauer will be the only presidency candidate at the forthcoming annual meeting, with Fritz Scherer (current president) and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (joint vice-president) standing as vice-presidents.

TEAM OF THE MONTH
NANTES

For their youth-driven revival in France, spearheaded by league top scorer Patrice Loko (left)

SUN 9 OCT

ACTION: More European qualifying action, including a 2-0 win over Lithuania which lifts Croatia to the top of group four . . . Japan beat Burma 5-0 to clinch the last quarter-finals spot in the Asian Games soccer tournament.
ENGLAND: Another of England's greatest former players, Raich Carter, dies aged 80 – four weeks after former international teammate Billy Wright.
GERMANY: Bayern Munich veteran Lothar Matthaus threatens to quit the national team if national coach Berti Vogts tries to move him from the sweeper role.

MON 10 OCT

ARGENTINA: A crowd of 30,000 turn out to see Diego Maradona appear in a charity match in Buenos Aires.
NIGERIA: Local officials say they expect to satisfy all FIFA's demands and be given the green light to stage next year's World Youth Cup championship.
POLAND: National coach Henryk Apostel is urged to quit by the sports media.
RUSSIA: New national Oleg Romantsev confirms he has dropped World Cup top scorer Oleg Salenko for the European championship qualifier against San Marino because of lingering unrest after the pre-World Cup row.

TUE 11 OCT

ACTION: South Korea score a famous 3-2 victory over World Cup host rivals Japan in the Asian Games quarter-finals in Hiroshima . . . Liverpool's Robbie Fowler is sent off in England's 3-1 win over Austria in the European under-21s.
BRAZIL: Pele returned to his directorship with Santos after president Miguel Kodja Neto is removed after accusations of financial mismanagement.
FRANCE: Champions Paris Saint-Germain move up from seventh to third in the league and back into title contention thanks to a 3-0 win over Lille, while leaders Nantes are held 0-0 at Le Havre.
GERMANY: Lazio's Thomas Doll agrees to join struggling Eintracht Frankfurt in a £1.4million deal.
SWITZERLAND: FIFA is to consider whether Diego Maradona has broken the terms of his international suspension by playing in a charity match in Argentina as well as taking up coaching duties.

WED 12 OCT

ACTION: A heavy day of European Championship action sees Moldova win their first-ever competitive home match, 3-2 against Wales.
FRANCE: World Cup joint president Fernand Sastre warns Marseille that a dispute over the manner and cost of redeveloping the Stade Velodrome could cost the city its inclusion among venues for the 1998 finals.
ITALY: Internazionale win 2-1 'away' to Milan in the San Siro in the Italian cup third round first leg.

THU 13 OCT

ACTION: Boca Juniors beat Argentine rivals River Plate 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in their South American Supercup quarter-final second leg in Buenos Aires. Boca now play Sao Paulo, defending title-holders. The other semi-final will be Cruzeiro (Brazil) v Independiente (Argentina).
BELGIUM: Norway striker Kjetil Rekdal, whose penalty earned Norway a 1-1 draw against Holland in their European championship qualifier on Wednesday, returns to Belgian club Lierse after a loan spell back in Norway with Molde.
BRAZIL: Police say final checks reveal that 19 people were injured during a hooligan riot at the national championship match in Campinas in which home club Guarani beat Corinthians. Trouble broke out when Corinthians fans attempted to storm a Guarani fans compound. Fighting stopped only at half[time when police reinforcementes arrived. No arrests were reported . . . CSE defender Cassio Barros da Silva, 25, dies after being shot by his own club's president after a dispute over his projected transfer from the club. Club president Gilson Raimundo Veija has disappeared, according to local police.
FINLAND: Tommy Lindholm resigns as coach of Finland's national team after the 4-0 defeat by Greece in a European Championship qualifier. Assistant coach Jukka Ikalainen will take over. In less than two years under Lindholm, Finland played 23 internationals, winning only four times.
PARAGUAY: The South American confederation formally confirms that Mexico and the United States have accepted invitations to take part in the 1995 Copa America, to be held in Uruguay.

FRI 14 OCT

SWITZERLAND: UEFA delivers its verdict on the Milan-Salzburg case. The result stands as 3-0 to Milan but they are deducted the two points. Salzburg gain nothing. Milan are also ordered to play their next two Champions League matches at least 200 miles away. Udine is the favourite alternative – though Milan lodge immediate notice of an appeal.

SAT 15 OCT

ACTION: Thomas Doll scores a debut goal for his new club, Eintracht Frankfurt, in a 3-3 draw away to Bayern Munich – the former club of Frankfurt coach Jupp Heynckes.

SUN 16 OCT

ACTION: Cameroon beat Zaire 1-0 in their opening match in Group One of the African Nations qualifiers . . . AS Roma move one point clear at the top in Italy despite being held 2-2 at Torino. The South American strikeforce of Balbo and Fonseca (with a penalty) get the goals for Roma. A 2-0 win over Cagliari keeps Parma in second place. Lazio trounce Napoli 5-0 to go third. But the big shock of the day sees champions Milan fall 2-0 to bottom club Padova, for whom US World Cup hero Alexi Lalas scores . . . Sporting Lisbon, chasing their first Portuguese league title in 12 years, go two points clear at the top with a 2-0 win over promoted Tirsense, thus capitalising on defeats for main rivals Porto and Benfica.

MON 17 OCT

GREECE: Nigerian World Cup striker Rachid Yekini ***(right)*** quits Olympiakos of Piraeus and says he wants to play in England, like World Cup team-mate Daniel Amokachi.
BELGIUM: Anderlecht coach Johan Boskamp reports eight senior players ruled out by injury, illness or suspension from the Champions League trip to play Hajduk Split. Latest casualty is Marc Degryse, who limped out of Sunday's 1-1 draw with Serain with a groin injury which could keep him sidelined for a month.

TUE 18 OCT

ACTION: Newcastle, 3-2 winners over Bilbao, are the only team in the UEFA Cup second round first legs to score more than two goals.
NIGERIA: Armed robbers shoot dead Apollinaire Hauhout, visiting secretary-general of the Ivory Coast federation, raising new doubts about Nigeria's suitability to host the World Junior Cup next March.
UNITED STATES: Preliminary accounts for the American organisers of the World Cup finals reveal a gross profit of £40million. Various USA '94 officials will benefit from the staff bonus scheme, headed by president Alan Rothenberg on £2million.
YUGOSLAVIA: Red Star Belgrade are banned by FIFA from playing a friendly with Greek side Olympiakos on Wednesday planned to celebrate the the UN Security Council's September decision to lift provisionally the controversial ban on air and sea travel and sports and cultural ties imposed in May 1992. FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter says steps towards a footballing reintegration can take place only if sanctioned by FIFA's executive committee meeting in New York on October 27.

WED 19 OCT

ACTION: Manchester United very nearly lose their 38-year unbeaten home record before snatching a 2-2 draw against Barcelona in the Champions League.
ENGLAND: The FA announces that out-of-competition dope checks are to be introduced . . . Manchester United are revealed as losing £50,000 per match in the Champions League because of the height of the advertising boards around the pitch. The club have decided not to sell tickets for the first four rows so as not to mislead fans who would have a restricted view and would cause problems by standing up to watch the game. The loss in spectator terms is around 3,700 per match.
GERMANY: Bayern Munich president-elect Franz Beckenbauer says he wants Giovanni Trapattoni to stay on as coach next season.
ITALY: Napoli move to dismiss coach Vincenzo Guerini and bring Vujadin Boskov out of retirement after a disappointing three days in which they were thrashed 5-1 by Lazio in the league and then drew 1-1 with Boavista in Portugal in the UEFA Cup.
RUSSIA: Controversial Pavel Sadyrin, who quit as Russia manager after the World Cup finals, is appointed back at the club where he made his name, Zenit St Petersburg.
SWITZERLAND: Servette's Swedish midfielder Haakan Mild is told he needs an operation on his right ankle which could keep him out for the rest of the year.

THU 20 OCT

ACTION: Bobby Robson's FC Porto hit six past Ferencvaros in the Cup-winners Cup.
GERMANY: Chemical giant Bayer quits as sponsor of Uerdingen but will stay with Leverkusen.
GREECE: Dutchman Thijs Libregts, a former coach of Holland's national team, takes over Olympiakos of Piraeus in place of Nikos Alefantos, who was fired after the home defeat by Marseille of France in UEFA Cup.
HOLLAND: The mayor of Enschede bans Sunday's match between Twente Enschede and Feyenoord because of fears of crowd trouble.

FRI 21 OCT

GERMANY: Hamburg have two players sent off in a 2-1 defeat by a Borussia Monchengladbach club celebrating their 1,000th game in the Bundesliga.
ITALY: Milan defender Paolo Maldini is ruled out for three weeks after breaking his nose in the Champions League visit to AEK Athens . . . veteran Vujadin Boskov is confirmed as new coach of Napoli in place of Vincenzo Guerini – who learned of his dismissal when his wife heard the announcement on television.
SWITZERLAND: UEFA decides that England should be granted an extra, fourth, place in next season's UEFA Cup. The opening has arisen through a new 'fair play' category and will bring English representation in Europe back to the level of pre-Heysel days. Norway and Luxembourg each gain an extra contestant thanks to the fair play ranking . . . UEFA confirms it will ask for 16 places to be awarded to European teams in the World Cup finals in France in 1998 . . . UEFA bans Azerbaijan from staging home ties in the European championship because of the state of emergency in the former Soviet republic.

SAT 22 OCT

ACTION: Borussia Dortmund open a two-point gap at the top in Germany when they beat champions Bayern Munich 1-0 with a late goal from Karlheinz Riedle.
ARGENTINA: New national coach Daniel Passarella keeps only midfielders Ariel Ortega and Hugo Perez from the World Cup party as he names his squad for a November friendly in Chile. No fewer than 20 of the 23 players named are uncapped. The third exception is 1990 World Cup defender Nestor Fabbri.
ITALY: Lazio medical staff say England midfielder Paul Gascoigne is well on the road to recovery after breaking his right leg in a training accident six months ago.

SUN 23 OCT

ACTION: Two goals from Andrei Kanchelskis ***(below)*** lift Manchester United to a 4-2 win at Blackburn, who have Norway defender Henning Berg controversially sent off for the first time in his career . . . Dutch champions Ajax Amsterdam embarrass old rivals PSV Eindhoven by winning 4-1 away to the Philips club . . . Parma beat Reggiana 2-1 with second-half goals from Dino Baggio and Marco Branca (penalty) to go one point clear of Roma at the top in Italy. Hooligan trouble in Napoli where 10 fans are treated in hospital for cuts and bruises after fighting before the match against Bari . . . Portuguese champions Benfica welcome back coach Artur Jorge to the bench after brain tumour surgery with a 5-0 win over Chaves . . . La Coruna go one point ahead in Spain after Real Madrid are held to a 1-1 draw at home by Compostela . . . IFK Gothenburg retain the Swedish league title with a late goal from Mikael Martinsson on the final day of the season which brings a 2-1 away victory at championship rivals Malmo.
FRANCE: Paris Saint-Germain's France forward David Ginola is set for a groin operation which could keep him on the sidelines for several weeks.

MON 24 OCT

ENGLAND: The Football League decides not to punish Manchester United for fielding weakened teams against Port Vale in the Leagye Cup and even holds out the prospect of seeding European contenders into the later stages to avert fixture problems.
GERMANY: Bayern Munich officials fly to Internazionale to open negotiations for the possible transfer of Dennis Bergkamp to the German champions.
HOLLAND: PSV Eindhoven coach Aad de Mos, under mounting pressure following UEFA Cup elimination and Sunday's humiliating 4-1 home defeat by Ajax, is summoned by club officials for crisis talks but general manager Frank Arnesen denies that de Mos's job is in danger.
ITALY: Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi says he expects Milan to regain top form quickly and "continue to challenge for honours in Italy and Europe."
UNITED STATES: FIFA president Joao Havelange, arriving in New York for a FIFA executive meeting, says he will propose that Europe receives three of the extra eight places at the 1998 World Cup finals.

TUE 25 OCT

FRANCE: Lyon drop goalkeeper Pascal Olmeta for attending the Lyon men's tennis final last Sunday between Switzerland's Marc Rosset and American Jim Courier. Coach Jean Tigana had banned his players from attending the tennus after a shock 4-0 away defeat by Lens on Saturday.
GERMANY: Berti Vogts refutes media speculation that he may, after all, be prepared to make peace with, and recall, Stefan Effenberg, who was dismissed from the national squad during the World Cup finals for a rude gesture to fans during the match against South Korea.
ITALY: Internazionale officials fail to agree terms with a Bayern Munich delegation (comprising Franz Beckenbauer, deputy president Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and manager Uli Hoeness) over the Dutch international striker Dennis Bergkamp. A high-powered Bayern delegation comprising flew to Milan on Monday.

RESULTS

Anderlecht beat Club Brugge . . . Sporting stay top in Portugal . . .

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

ADMIRA WACKER 3 (Kogler 8, Litovchenko 54, Schiener 85)
RAPID WIEN 0. **Att:** 4,000.

FC LINZ 1 (Brunnmayr 51)
FC TIROL 3 (Cerny 15, 35, Janeschitz 82). **Att:** 4,000.

VORWARTS STEYR 2 (Krinner 19, Azima 21)
STURM GRAZ 1 (Vastic 27). **Att:** 4,000.

AUSTRIA WIEN 2 (Mjelde 24, 63)
VfB MODLING 0. **Att:** 4,000.

SALZBURG 1 (Pfeifenberger 61)
LINZER ASK 2 (Kartalija 8, Ramusch 59). **Att:** 12,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

WEEKEND

STURM GRAZ 0
ADMIRA 1 (Schiener 89). **Att:** 8,000.

LINZER ASK 0
FC LINZ 2 (Gschnaidtner 32, Waldhor 79). **Att:** 11,000.

VfB MODLING 1 (Helm 8)
VORWARTS 2 (Westerthaler 10, Krinner 16). **Att:** 1,000.

RAPID WIEN 1 (Barisic 7)
SALZBURG 1 (Pfeifenberger 21). **Att:** 21,000.

FC TIROL 2 (Poiger pen 33, Stoger 90)
AUSTRIA WIEN 0. **Att:** 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

FC LINZ 1 (Duspara 77)
RAPID WIEN 1 (Mandreko 70). **Att:** 5,000.

VORWARTS 5 (Groble 39, Westerthaler 59, 74, Naawu 76, Madlener 79)
FC TIROL 0. **Att:** 6,000.

VfB MODLING 1 (Guggi 12)
STURM GRAZ 2 (Pakasin 88, Haas 90). **Att:** 1,000.

SALZBURG 4 (Mladenovic 7, Jurcevic 18, Hassenhuttl 42, Pfeifenberger 59)
ADMIRA WACKER 2 (Klausz 79, Eberhardt 85). **Att:** 12,000.

AUSTRIA WIEN 1 (Mjelde 62)
LINZER ASK 0. **Att:** 3,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

ADMIRA 1 (Scharrer 38)
LINZ 2 (Zingle og 13, Duspara 65). **Att:** 2,500.

LINZER 1 (Ramusch 88)
VORWARTS 1 (Azima 90). **Att:** 8,000.

RAPID WIEN 3 (Purk 33, Jovanovic 58, Barisic 88)
AUSTRIA WIEN 1 (Ogris 66). **Att:** 15,000.

STURM GRAZ 0
SALZBURG 1 (Hasenhuttl 42). **Att:** 11,000.

FC TIROL 3 (Kirchler 5, Sane 19, 85)
VfB MODLING 1 (Kreiker 14). **Att:** 7,000.

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Tirol	15	8	4	3	27	15	20
Austria Wien	15	6	7	2	22	14	19
Vorwarts Steyr	15	6	5	4	24	18	17
Salzburg	15	4	9	2	21	15	17
Rapid Wien	15	6	5	4	23	22	17
Sturm Graz	15	6	4	5	19	19	16
FC Linz	15	4	6	5	18	25	14
Linzer	15	3	6	6	14	16	12
Admira	15	3	5	7	19	29	11
VfB Modling	15	1	3	11	15	31	5

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

LOMMEL 1 (Mukanya 78)
ANTWERP 0. **Att:** 7,100.

LIERSE 1 (Snoeckx 10)
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Staelens 24, Verheyen 84). **Att:** 12,000.

ANDERLECHT 2 (Degryse 34, Boffin 64)
BEVEREN 1 (Van Overtvelt 58). **Att:** 16,000.

GENT 2 (Dauwen 47, Viscaal pen 74)
CHARLEROI 2 (Arnold 52, Remy 55). **Att:** 7,700.

CERCLE BRUGES 0
ST TRUIDEN 1 (Nielsen 66). **Att:** 2,800.

FC LIEGE 2 (Essende 46, Varga pen 78)
RWDM 2 (Rouyr 22, Williams 42). **Att:** 4,000.

EENDRACHT 1 (De Bilde 59)
SERAING 3 (Houben 35, Lukaku 47, Schaessens 90). **Att:** 5,500.

OOSTENDE 0
STANDARD 2 (Wilmots 89, Vidmar 90). **Att:** 6,500.

EKEREN 0
MECHELEN 2 (Urban 25, 80 pen). **Att:** 3,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

ST TRUIDEN 0
EKEREN 4 (Hofmans 10, Pierre 30, Abeels 53, Radzinski 85). **Att:** 5,000.

CHARLEROI 2 (Van Meir 14, 51)
CERCLE BRUGGE 0. **Att:** 7,000.

STANDARD 2 (Wilmots 18, Vervoort 44)
GENT 0. **Att:** 18,500.

RWDM 1 (Ernes 84)
OOSTENDE 1 (Swietek 89). **Att:** 5,000.

BEVEREN 5 (Boonen 36, 79, Goots 43, 48, Van Maele 87)
FC LIEGE 4 (Ademola 63, 82, Kimoni 80, Quaranta 85). **Att:** 3,000.

ANTWERP 0
LIERSE 3 (Snelders 37, Peeters 85, Snoecks 88). **Att:** 7,000.

MECHELEN 1 (Urban 39)
LOMMEL 0. **Att:** 7,300.

SERAING 1 (Lukaku 42)
ANDERLECHT 1 (Weber 53). **Att:** 9,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Lamberg og 14, Eijkelkamp 90)
EENDRACHT 3 (Van Wambeke 26, Meyssen 46, De Bilde 77). **Att:** 10,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

EENDRACHT 3 (De Vleesshouwer 43, De Bilde 72, Krncevic 90)
ANTWERP 0. **Att:** 7,000.

ANDERLECHT 1 (Boffin 36)
CLUB BRUGGE 0. **Att:** 25,000.

BEVEREN 1 (Volckerick 43)
SERAING 0. **Att:** 5,500.

CERCLE BRUGGE 3 (Lauwers 6, 61, De Buyser 80)
STANDARD 0. **Att:** 5,000.

EKEREN 5 (Hofmans 58, 76, Descamps 68, Halmai 79, 87)
CHARLEROI 0. **Att:** 3,500.

GENT 0
RWDM 0. **Att:** 4,000.

LIERSE 0
MECHELEN 0. **Att:** 1,200.

LOMMEL 0
ST TRUIDEN 1 (Driesen 82). **Att:** 8,000.

FC LIEGE 1 (Varga 35)
OOSTENDE 2 (Soudan 6, Swietek 7). **Att:** 5,000.

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Standard	10	7	2	1	18	6	16
Anderlecht	10	7	2	1	25	14	16
Club Brugge	10	5	2	3	23	12	12
Lierse	10	5	2	3	23	16	12
Seraing	10	5	2	3	18	12	12
Mechelen	10	5	2	3	14	11	12
Ghent	10	4	3	3	15	15	11
RWDM	10	2	6	2	12	13	10
Beveren	10	5	0	5	16	18	10
Eendracht Aalst	10	4	2	4	19	22	10
Ekeren	10	3	3	4	19	15	9
St Truiden	10	3	3	4	10	14	9
Charleroi	10	3	3	4	9	13	9
Antwerp	10	3	2	5	15	19	8
Cercle Bruges	10	3	2	5	9	14	8
Oostend	10	3	1	6	12	21	7
Lommel	10	2	1	7	8	18	5
FC Liege	10	0	4	6	12	24	4

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

NEC 2 (Janssen 7, Kooistra)
PSV 2 (Numan 50, Koekstra 73). **Att:** 12,000.

DORDRECHT 0
RODA JC 3 (Huiberts 15, pen 89, Iwan 83). **Att:** 1,725.

GA EAGLES 0
VITESSE 0. **Att:** 7,000.

HEERENVEEN 1 (De Visser pen 2)
RKC 0. **Att:** 11,000.

MVV 2 (Visser 17, Lanckohr 39)
NAC 3 (Gerritsen 32, 60, Schaap 87). **Att:** 7,500.

WILLEM II 1 (Stewart 4, Van Hintum 14)
FC TWENTE 2 (Mols 59, Meijs og 83). **Att:** 7,400.

GRONINGEN 1 (Beerens 26)
FEYENOORD 1 (Van Loen 21). **Att:** 13,702.

SPARTA 0
AJAX 2 (R. de Boer 36, Finidi pen 57). **Att:** 12,500.

UTRECHT 0
VOLENDAM 0. **Att:** 8,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

WEEKEND

GA EAGLES 1 (Pothoven 53)
MVV 1 (Roelofsen 37). **Att:** 5,200.

SPARTA 2 (Van den Berg 25, D. de Nooijer 89)
VOLENDAM 0. **Att:** 3,000.

UTRECHT 2 (Hofstede 10, 43)
NAC 2 (Lokhoff 58, Van Hoojidonk pen 67). **Att:** 8,300.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

RODA JC 1 (Atteveld 53)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 6,000.

NAC 1 (Van Hoojidonk 50)
DORDRECHT 1 (Wouden 26). **Att:** 10,743.

PSV 3 (Nilis 60, Meijer 83, Ronaldo pen 90)
HEERENVEEN 1 (Polley 9). **Att:** 25,750.

AJAX 4 (Overmars 48, Blind 50, Litmanen 59, Kluivert pen 90)
GA EAGLES 0. **Att:** 24,543.

FEYENOORD 3 (Blinker 18, Trustfull 72, Maas 89)
UTRECHT 0. **Att:** 27,220.

RKC 1 (Decheiver 63)
WILLEM II 1 (Van Hintum pen 41). **Att:** 3,100.

TWENTE 2 (Mols 53, Ter Avest 72)
GRONINGEN 2 (Sion 50, Bombarda 78). **Att:** 6,400.

VITESSE 2 (Curovic 40, 57)
NEC 0. **Att:** 8,000.

VOLENDAM 1 (Smeets 7)
MVV 1 (Roelofsen pen 83). **Att:** 2,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

HEERENVEEN 3 (Regtop 14, 89, Echteld 59)
VITESSE 0. **Att:** 12,000.

NAC 1 (Van Hooijdonk 10)
SPARTA 3 (Van der Laan 30, 49, Noorlander 64). **Att:** 10,843.

RODA JC 3 (De Kock 19, 39, Van Galen 43)
NEC 1 (Janssen 12). **Att:** 6,500.

PSV 1 (Nilis 74)
AJAX 4 (R. de Boer 7, Davids 14, Seedorf 16, Van Vossen 56). **Att:** 27,000.

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	8	7	1	0	27	4	15
Roda JC	9	5	4	0	19	7	14
Feyenoord	9	5	3	1	21	9	13
FC Twente	8	4	4	0	19	13	12
PSV	9	5	2	2	25	13	12
FC Utrecht	8	4	2	2	14	11	10
MVV	9	4	2	3	17	13	10
Willem II	9	4	2	3	14	11	10
NAC	9	2	4	3	14	18	8
Vitesse	9	2	4	3	7	13	8
Sparta	10	3	2	5	14	15	8
Heerenveen	10	4	0	6	13	25	8
FC Groningen	10	2	3	5	14	20	7
FC Volendam	10	1	5	4	9	16	7
NEC	8	2	2	4	10	13	6
GA Eagles	10	1	4	5	9	24	6
RKC	9	1	3	5	10	18	5
Dordrecht '90	10	0	5	5	6	19	5

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

WEEKEND

BOAVISTA 1 (Sanchez 55)
MARITIMO 0. **Att:** 5,000.

SALGUEIROS 2 (Joni 13, Fernando Amleida pen 89)
SPORTING 3 (Juskowiak 10, 74, Balakov 35). **Att:** 6,000.

TIRSENSE 3 (Baptista 45, Marcelo 47, 80)
ESTRELA AMADORA 1 (Goncalves pen 17). **Att:** 2,700.

SPORTING BRAGA 4 (Rui Miguel 11, Karoglan 26, Litos 62, Barroso 83)
BELENENSES 2 (Bino 41, Petrovic 69). **Att:** 7,500.

BEIRA-MAR 1 (Toni 2)
FARENSE 3 (King 71, Calita 87, Hassan Nader 90). **Att:** 2,500.

UNIAO MADEIRA 3 (Jokanovic 24, Beto 49, Simic 59)
GUIMARAES 3 (Pedro Barbosa 35, Kupressanin 45, 61). **Att:** 3,000.

VITORIA SETUBAL 0
CHAVES 1 (Edinho 12). **Att:** 8,000.

UNIAO LEIRIA 3 (Abel 61, 87, Bertolazzi 74)
GIL VICENTE 0. **Att:** 12,000.

BENFICA 1 (Isaias 89)
FC PORTO 1 (Yuran 66). **Att:** 55,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

BOAVISTA 1 (Alex 89)
SALGUEIROS 0. **Att:** 6,000.

SPORTING LISBON 2 (Balakov 37, Oceano pen 89)
TIRSENSE 0. **Att:** 40,000.

ESTRELA AMADORA 4 (Concalves 21, Birame 46, 88, Fernando 66)
SPORTING BRAGA 0. **Att:** 7,700.

BELENENSES 3 (Luis Gustavo 53, Miguel Bruno 77, Ban 90)
BEIRA-MAR 0. **Att:** 7,900.

FARENSE 2 (Hassan Nader 67, 90)
UNIAO 1 (Gecse 77). **Att:** 8,000.

GUIMARAES 1 (Gilmar 77)
SETUBAL 1 (Stevanovic 24). **Att:** 20,000.

CHAVES 1 (Zito 36)
UNIAO LEIRIA 1 (Pedro Miguel pen 15). **Att:** 6,500.

GIL VICENTE 1 (Tuck pen 90)
BENFICA 0. **Att:** 10,000.

MARITIMO 2 (Vado 68, Rebelo 73)
FC PORTO 1 (Domingos 87). **Att:** 14,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

BEIRA-MAR 2 (Costa 20, Nando 49)
ESTRELA 0. **Att:** 12,800.

BENFICA 5 (Isaias 5, 17, Joao 51 Pinto II, Amaral 69, Kenedy 85)
CHAVES 0. **Att:** 35,000.

SPORTING BRAGA 0
SPORTING LISBON 2 (Juskowiak 82, Figo 89). **Att:** 13,000.

UNIAO LEIRIA 2 (Abel pen 65, Bertolazzi 69)
GUIMARAES 1 (Abel og 59). **Att:** 8,000.

UNIAO MADEIRA 0
BELENENSES 1 (Luis Gustavo 54). **Att:** 5,000.

FC PORTO 1 (Secretario 87)
GIL VICENTE 0. **Att:** 35,000.

SALGUEIROS 0
MARITIMO 0. **Att:** 6,450.

TIRSENSE 2 (M Cipriano 26, 67 pen)
BOAVISTA 1 (Artur 59 pen). **Att:** 7,300.

VITORIA SETUBAL 1 (Chiquinho Conde 9)
FARENSE 1 (Hassan Nader pen 66). **Att:** 10,000.

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting	9	8	1	0	19	5	17
FC Porto	9	7	1	1	19	5	15
Tirsense	9	6	0	3	12	6	12
Benfica	8	5	1	2	14	4	11
Boavista	9	4	2	3	10	11	10
Maritimo	8	4	2	2	9	7	10
Uniao Leiria	9	3	3	3	11	11	9
Chaves	9	4	1	4	11	16	9
Belenenses	9	4	1	4	11	9	9
Guimaraes	9	3	3	3	11	12	9
Sporting Braga	9	3	2	4	9	13	8
Farense	9	3	2	4	9	12	8
Estrela Amadora	9	2	3	4	12	11	7
Beira-Mar	9	3	0	6	8	15	6
Salgueiros	9	2	2	5	4	11	6
Uniao Madeira	9	2	2	5	10	18	6
Gil Vicente	9	2	1	6	5	10	5
Setubal	9	0	3	6	8	16	3

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

MIDWEEK

LUGANO 2 (Andrioli 18)
LUCERNE 0. **Att:** 2,500.

WEEKEND

AARAU 3 (Fink 18, Ratinho 35, Wyss 90)
SION 0. **Att:** 4,300.

LAUSANNE 0
ZURICH 0. **Att:** 4,000.

ST GALLEN 0
LUCERNE 0. **Att:** 6,200.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 4 (Juarez og 78, Detari 81, 90, Aleksandrov 87)
SERVETTE 2 (Juarez 59, Djorovski 84). **Att:** 8,600.

GRASSHOPPER 2 (Magnin 44, 45)
YOUNG BOYS 1 (Hartmann 32). **Att:** 4,750.

LUGANO 1 (Sinval 3)
FC BASEL 1 (Van Duren 2). **Att:** 4,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

WEEKEND

FC BASEL 2 (Walker 54, 90)
LAUSANNE 1 (La Placa 26). **Att:** 9,000.

LUCERNE 1 (Van Eck 68)
GRASSHOPPER 1 (Magnin 18). **Att:** 13,000.

SION 0
LUGANO 3 (Andrioli 14, 54, Sinval 90). **Att:** 5,000.

ST GALLEN 2 (Gilewicz pen 60, Winkler 71)
SERVETTE 1 (Winkler 71). **Att:** 6,000.

YOUNG BOYS 4 (Christensen 22, Giallanza pen 44, 72, Aduobe 58)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0. **Att:** 4,600.

ZURICH 4 (Tarone 42, Moller 55, Favre 81, Waas 84)
AARAU 0. **Att:** 3,800.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

WEEKEND

FC BASEL 0
ZURICH 0. **Att:** 25,000.

GRASSHOPPER 1 (Subiat 30)
LAUSANNE 1 (Badea 89). **Att:** 4,600.

LUGANO 1 (Englund 16)
AARAU 1 (Ratinho 8). **Att:** 4,500.

LUCERNE 0
YOUNG BOYS 0. **Att:** 8,800.

SERVETTE 1 (Neuville 47)
SION 1 (Karl 42). **Att:** 7,500.

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 3 (Aleksandrov 22, 61, Detari 90)
ST GALLEN 0. **Att:** 6,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

WEEKEND

AARAU 2 (Christ 71, Wyss 88)
LUCERNE 1 (Carnenzind 90). **Att:** 6,900.

LAUSANNE 3 (Biaggi 12, Sogbie 42, 90)
SERVETTE 1 (Fatusi 6). **Att:** 6,200.

ST GALLEN 0
FC BASEL 3 (Rey 18, Zuffi 59, 85). **Att:** 10,200.

SION 2 (Marin 12, Karl 56)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 1 (Wiederkehr 73). **Att:** 8,000.

YOUNG BOYS 0
LUGANO 3 (Englund 17, Andrioli 71, Manfreda 83). **Att:** 4,500.

ZURICH 0
GRASSHOPPER 3 (Willems 13,27, Yakin pen 90). **Att:** 10,000.

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grasshopper	17	10	5	2	30	16	25
Lausanne	17	7	7	3	26	18	21
Lugano	17	6	8	3	24	12	20
Neuchatel	17	8	4	5	26	23	20
Aarau	17	6	7	4	25	17	19
Lucerne	17	6	6	5	20	24	18
Basle	17	4	7	6	15	11	15
Sion	16	6	2	8	22	30	14
FC Zurich	17	2	10	5	16	23	14
St Gallen	16	2	9	5	13	21	13
Servette	17	3	6	8	18	24	12
Young Boys	17	4	3	10	16	32	11

RESULTS

European tables . . . latest results and tables from the three European

EURO TABLES

FINLAND — Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TPV Tampere	26	16	4	6	45	27	52
MyPa	26	15	5	6	49	21	50
HJK Helsinki	26	12	7	7	40	29	43
FC Jazz	26	13	3	10	49	36	42
RoPS	26	10	8	8	32	31	38
Haka	26	11	4	11	36	30	37
Jaro	26	10	7	9	35	39	37
TPS Turku	26	9	7	10	38	33	34
Kuusysi Lahti	26	10	4	12	42	49	34
FinnPa	26	8	9	9	25	35	33
MP Mikkeli	26	7	8	11	25	31	29
Ilves	26	7	7	12	35	45	28
FC Oulu	26	6	9	11	32	43	27
KuPS Kuopio	26	6	2	17	24	59	20

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grevenmacher	9	7	1	1	16	6	15
Avenir Beggen	9	6	2	1	28	11	14
Dudelange	9	5	2	2	24	13	12
Jeunesse Esch	9	5	2	2	17	9	12
FC Wiltz	9	4	2	3	14	17	10
Aris	9	4	1	4	17	13	9
Spora	9	3	2	4	18	17	8
CS Petange	8	3	1	4	8	15	7
Union	9	1	4	4	10	11	6
Red Boys	8	3	0	5	19	22	6
Wormeldange	9	1	2	6	7	28	4
Swift	9	1	1	7	10	26	3

SWEDEN — Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IFK Gothenburg	26	16	6	4	54	28	54
Orebro	26	15	7	4	62	30	52
Malmo	26	14	7	5	51	33	49
IFK Norrkoping	26	13	8	5	52	22	47
Oster	26	13	6	7	48	30	45
AIK Stockholm	26	11	6	9	42	41	39
Halmstad	26	10	8	8	41	39	38
Degerfors	26	8	8	10	28	37	32
Helsingborg	26	9	5	12	30	46	32
Trelleborgs	26	7	9	10	25	40	30
Vastra	26	7	6	13	30	33	27
Hammarby	26	5	7	14	28	44	22
Landskrona	26	4	5	17	22	59	17
Hacken	26	2	8	16	27	58	14

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hamrun Spartans	5	4	0	1	11	3	12
Hibernians	5	3	2	0	11	6	11
Sliema Wand	5	3	1	1	17	8	10
Valletta	5	3	1	1	12	4	10
Zurrieq	5	3	0	2	7	10	9
Floriana	5	2	1	2	11	6	7
B'kara Luxol	5	1	2	2	6	8	5
Pieta' Hotspurs	5	0	2	3	1	12	2
Naxxar Lions	5	0	2	3	3	9	2
St George's	5	0	1	4	2	16	1

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tirana	9	7	2	0	17	5	16
Partizani	9	6	3	0	14	4	15
Teuta	9	4	2	3	11	6	10
Beselidhja	9	4	2	3	13	9	10
Apolonia	9	4	2	3	12	10	10
Flamurtari	9	3	3	3	11	10	9
Elbasani	9	3	3	3	6	5	9
Shkumbini	9	2	4	3	9	8	8
Vllaznia	9	3	2	4	4	6	8
Laci	9	4	0	5	7	11	8
Shqiponja	9	2	3	4	10	13	7
Albpetrol	9	3	1	5	9	4	7
Iliria	9	3	1	5	8	16	7
Tomori	9	3	2	4	5	8	6
Dinamo	9	2	2	5	8	12	6
Besa	9	3	0	6	7	16	6

CZECH REPUBLIC

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Viktoria Zizkov	12	9	1	2	33	15	28
Slavia Prague	12	8	3	1	23	9	27
Liberec	12	7	2	3	20	11	23
Boby Brno	12	6	4	2	19	13	22
Sparta Prague	12	6	3	3	26	12	21
Union Cheb	12	5	4	3	13	11	19
Banik Ostrava	12	5	4	3	15	17	19
Jablonec	12	5	2	5	18	13	17
Sigma	12	4	4	4	14	11	16
Svit Zlin	12	4	3	5	8	13	15
Viktoria Plzen	12	4	1	7	9	20	13
Ceske Budjovice	12	2	6	4	10	13	12
Svarc Benesov	12	3	2	7	10	20	11
Bohemians	12	2	3	7	10	20	9
Petra Drnovice	12	2	1	9	10	23	7
Hradec Kralove	12	2	1	9	7	24	7

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Widzew Lodz	13	8	3	2	23	13	19
Legia Warsaw	13	8	2	3	23	9	18
GKS Katowice	13	6	6	1	17	7	18
Gornik Zabrze	13	5	6	2	20	12	16
Olimpia	13	4	6	3	19	13	14
Stomil Olsztyn	13	3	8	2	20	17	14
Lech Poznan	13	5	4	4	17	14	14
Hutnik Krakow	13	6	2	5	16	22	14
Sokol Pniewy	13	3	7	3	15	15	13
Pogon Szczecin	13	4	5	4	12	13	13
LKS Lodz	13	3	7	3	14	16	13
Stal Stalowa	13	4	5	4	11	15	13
Zaglebie Lubin	13	4	4	5	20	23	12
Stal Mielec	13	3	5	5	18	20	11
Ruch Chorzow	13	1	8	4	10	13	10
Petrochemia	13	2	4	7	14	24	8
Rakow	13	2	4	7	15	26	8
Warta Poznan	13	1	4	8	8	29	6

SLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slovan	12	8	4	0	21	7	28
Spartak Trnava	12	7	1	4	21	10	22
Kosice	12	6	3	3	23	13	21
Dunajska	13	6	2	5	16	11	20
Banska Bystrica	12	6	3	3	26	12	21
Lok. Kosice	12	6	1	5	23	21	19
Prievidza	13	5	3	5	11	19	18
Bardejov	13	5	2	6	14	14	17
Inter Bratislava	13	4	5	4	15	18	17
Tatran Presov	13	3	3	7	14	22	12
Chemlon	13	2	5	6	13	25	11
Zilina	13	2	1	10	13	28	7

UKRAINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kiev Dynamo	12	9	3	0	30	11	30
Shakhtyor	12	9	2	1	26	5	29
Tavria	12	9	1	2	30	8	28
Dnepr	11	8	2	1	21	10	26
Chornomorets	12	7	2	3	20	12	23
Krivbas	12	6	2	4	10	8	20
Veres	12	5	2	5	14	20	17
Niva Vinnitsa	12	5	0	7	17	16	15
Karpaty	12	4	3	5	10	15	15
Torpedo	12	5	0	7	14	21	15
Kremen	12	4	2	6	16	17	14
Prikarpattie	12	4	2	6	13	16	14
Zariya-Mals	12	4	1	7	16	25	13
Metalurg	12	3	3	6	13	20	12
Niva Ternopil	12	2	3	7	14	20	9
Temp	12	2	3	7	9	16	9
Volyn	11	2	2	7	9	22	8
Nikolayev	12	2	1	9	10	30	7

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	7	7	0	0	23	5	21
OFI Crete	7	5	1	1	10	5	16
Olympiakos	7	4	1	2	18	6	13
PAOK	7	4	1	2	12	7	13
AEK	7	3	3	1	12	7	12
Iraklis	7	4	0	3	16	9	12
Edessaikos	7	3	2	2	8	6	11
Aris Salonika	7	3	1	3	8	6	10
Xanthi	7	2	3	2	14	10	9
Panionios	7	2	3	2	8	10	9
Apollon	7	2	2	3	10	11	8
Larissa	7	2	2	3	8	8	8
Athinaikos	7	2	2	3	5	5	8
Levadiakos	7	2	1	4	5	10	7
Ionikos	7	2	1	4	9	21	7
Ethnikos	7	1	3	3	7	12	6
Doxa Drama	7	1	1	5	7	19	4
Kavala	7	0	1	6	3	23	1

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Besiktas	11	8	1	2	25	8	25
Galatasaray	11	7	3	1	29	11	24
Genclerbirligi	11	7	2	2	23	16	23
Trabzonspor	11	6	3	2	21	13	21
Bursaspor	11	6	3	2	19	12	21
Fenerbahce	11	6	2	3	25	12	20
Samsunspor	11	4	4	3	22	19	16
Vanspor	11	5	1	5	11	9	16
Ankaragucu	11	5	1	5	11	13	16
Altay	11	3	5	3	18	17	14
Kayserispor	11	4	2	5	18	23	14
Zeytinburnuspor	11	4	1	6	13	21	13
Kocaelispor	11	3	3	5	16	24	12
Gaziantepspor	11	3	1	7	14	22	10
Ad. Demirspor	11	3	1	7	13	24	10
Denizlispor	11	3	0	8	16	25	9
Antalyaspor	11	2	2	7	11	18	8
Petrolofisi	11	2	1	8	9	27	7

EUROPEAN CUPS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

(October 19)

Group A

GOTHENBURG 1 (Erlingmark 76)
GALATASARAY 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 26,412.
IFK: Ravelli — Kamark, M Johansson, Bjorklund, M Nilsson, Martinsson (Wahlstedt), Rehn, Lindqvist, Blomqvist (T Andersson), Pettersson, Erlingmark.
Galatasaray: Stauce — Mapeza, Bulent, Sedat, Mert (Akyol), Hamza, Yusuf, Saffet, Hakan, Suat, Kubilay Turkyilmaz.

MANCHESTER UNITED 2 (Hughes 18, Sharpe 80)
BARCELONA 2 (Romario 34, Bakero 49)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 40,064. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rom)
Man United: Schmeichel — Parker, Irwin, May (Bruce 69), Butt (Scholes 67), Pallister, Kanchelskis, Ince, Keane, Hughes, Sharpe.
Barcelona: Busquets — Abelardo, Guardiola, Koeman, Sergi, Bakero, Luis (Eusebio 46), Stoichkov, Nadal, Romario, Beguiristain (Jordi 67).

Group B

KIEV DYNAMO 1 (Leonenko 33 pen)
PARIS SAINT GERMAIN 2 (Guerin 26, Weah 76)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 92,500.
Kiev: Shovskovsky — Luzhny, Vashchuk, Khomin, Smatovalenko, Kovalets, Lezehentsev, Kosovsky, Mikhailenko, Leonenko, Rebrov (Djishkariani 60).
Paris SG: Lama — Cobos, Dieng, Kombouare, Roche, Le Guen, Bravo, Guerin, Weah (Colleter 88), Valdo, Ginola (Rai 53).

MOSCOW SPARTAK 1 (Pisarev 78)
BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Babbel 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000
Spartak: Tiapushkin — Nikiforov (Ternavski 85), Ananko, Onopko, Rakhimov, Piatnitski, Tsymbalar, Kechinov, Mukamadiev (Konovalov 75), Tikhonov, N Pisarev.
Bayern: Kahn — Matthaus — Babbel, Kreuzer, Jorginho, Frey, Scholl, Nerlinger, Sutter (Sternkopf 64), Ziege, Zickler.

Group C

BENFICA 2 (Caniggia 43 pen, Joao Pinto Vieira 61)
STEAUA BUCHAREST 1 (Militaru 90)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Elleray (Eng)
Benfica: Preud'Homme — Veloso (Cesar Brito 81), Mozer, Helder, Dimas, Tavares, Vitor Paneira, Joao Pinto Vieira, Caniggia, Nelo (Kennedy 82), Isaias.
Steaua: Stingaciu — Panait, Pirvu, *Dobos, Gilca, Prodan, Filipescu, Militaru, Rosu (Bucur 66), Panduru (Iftodi 82), Stan.
** = Dobos sent off, 58min.*

HAJDUK SPLIT 2 (Pralija 34, Butorovic 86)
ANDERLECHT 1 (Weber 88)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 38,000.
Hajduk: Gabric — Butorovic, Praiija, Hibic, Person, Andrijasevic, Vulic, Rapaic, Mornar (Vucevic 57), Asanovic, Erceg (Vukas 89)
Anderlecht: De Wilde — Crasson, Rutjes, Suray, Nwanu, Walem, Weber, Peiremans, Bosman, Zetterberg, Boffin.

Group D

AEK ATHENS 0
MILAN 0
Att: 30,000.
AEK: Atmatsides — Kopitsis (Agoroyannis 78), Papadopoulos, Manolas, Sabanadzovic, Vlahos, Saravakos, Savevski, Kostis, Tsartas, Kasapis.
Milan: Rossi — Tassotti, Maldini (Panucci 14), Gullit, Costacurta, Baresi, Donadoni, Desailly, Boban, Albertini, Massaro.

CASINO SALZBURG 0
AJAX AMSTERDAM 0
Att: 18,200 *(in Vienna)*
Salzburg: Konrad — Lainer, Artner, Fuerstaller, Hiden, Winklhofer, Feiersinger, Pfeifenberger, Mladenovic (Huetter 75), Kocijan (Hasenhuettl 78), Jurcevic.
Ajax: Van der Sar — Blind, Reizinger, Rijkaard, F De Boer, Overmars (Kreek 46), R De Boer, Litmanen, Seedorf, Van Vossen, Kluivert (Kanu 67).

(November 2)

Group A

BARCELONA 4 (Stoichkov 9, 52, Romario 45, Ferrer 88)
MANCHESTER UNITED 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 115,000. **Ref:** Quiniou (Fra).
Barcelona: Busquets — Ferrer, Guardiola, Koeman, Abelardo, Bakero (Sanchez Jara 77), Amor, Stoichkov, Jordi (Ivan 63), Romario, Sergi.
Man Utd: Walsh — Parker, Bruce, Pallister, Irwin, Kanchelskis, Ince, Keane, Butt, Giggs (Scholes 80), Hughes.

GALATASARAY 0
GOTHENBURG 1 (Erlingmark 86)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Krondl (Cze).
Galatasaray: Stauce — Mapeza, Bulent, Sedat, Mert, Yusuf (Tugay, Kerimoglu 46), Erdem, Saffet, Hakan, Suat, Hamza (Kubilay Turkyilmaz, 70).
IFK: Ravelli — Kamark, M Johansson, Bjorklund, M Nilsson, Erlingmark, Rehn, Lindqvist, T Andersson, Martinsson, Blomqvist (Gustavsson 89).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IFK Gothenburg	4	3	0	1	6	5	6
Barcelona	4	2	1	1	9	5	5
Man United	4	1	2	1	6	8	4
Galatasaray	4	0	1	3	1	4	1

Group B

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Nerlinger 29, Kuffour 42)
MOSCOW SPARTAK 2 (Tikhonov 4, Alenichev 33)
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Van der Ende (Hol).
Bayern: Kahn — Matthaeus, Kreuzer, Kuffour, Jorginho, Schupp (Hamann 64), Scholl (Frey 54), Nerlinger, Ziege, Zickler, Witeczek.
Spartak: Tiapushkin — Nikiforov, Ananko, Onopko, Rakhimov, Alenichev, Tikhonov, Kechinov, Khlestov, Piatnitski, N Pisarev (Naduda 85).

PARIS SG 1 (Weah 68)
KIEV DYNAMO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 33,741. **Ref:** Cakar (Tur).
Paris SG: Lama — Kombouare, Roche, Dieng, Cobos (Llacer 79), Bravo, Guerin, Le Guen, Colleter, Rai (Nouma 79), Weah.
Kiev: Shovkovski — Luzhny, Vashchuk, Lezhentsev, Shmatovalenko, Kovalets, Prizetko, Mikhailenko, Kosovsky, Rebrov (Dzhishkariani 71), Skachenko.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Paris SG	4	4	0	0	7	2	8
Bayern Munich	4	1	2	1	4	5	4
Dynamo Kiev	4	1	0	3	4	6	2
Moscow Sptk	4	0	2	2	6	8	2

Group C

ANDERLECHT 0
HAJDUK SPLIT 0
Att: 21,000. **Ref:** Merk (Ger).
Anderlecht: De Wilde — Crasson, Rutjes, Suray, Doll, Walem, Zetterberg, Peiremans (Haagdoren 69), Boffin, Bosman, Weber.
Hajduk Split: Gabric — Butorovic, Vuica, Hibic, Stimac, Pralija, Vulic, Mestrovic (Andrijasevic 80), Asanovic, Rapaic (Erceg 83), Mornar.

STEAUA BUCHAREST 1 (Panduru 27)
BENFICA 1 (Helder 64)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Sundell (Swe)
Steaua: Stingaciu — Panait, Filipescu, Bucur, Gilca, Prodan, Csik, Iftodi (Ion 71), Rosu (Popa 80), Panduru, Stan.
Benfica: Preud'homme — Veloso, Mozer, Paulo Madeira, Dimas, Abel Xavier, Vitor Paneira, Joao Vieria Pinto, Helder (Tavares 83), Nelo, Isaias.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Benfica	4	2	2	0	6	3	6
Hajduk Split	4	2	2	0	3	1	6
Steaua	4	0	2	2	2	4	2
Anderlecht	4	0	2	2	2	5	2

Group D

AJAX 1 (Litmanen 85)
SALZBURG 1 (Kocijan 62)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 41,000. **Ref:** Mottram (Sco)
Ajax: Van der Sar — Reiziger, Seedorf, Rijkaard, F De Boer, R De Boer, George, Davids, Kluivert (Kanu 57), Litmanen, Overmars (Van Vossen 46).
Salzburg: Konrad — Lainer, Kocijan, Mladenovic (Huetter 76), Fuerstaller, Winklhofer, Jurcevic, Artner (Hasenhuetti 84), Pfeifenberger, Feiersinger, Hiden.

MILAN 2 (Panucci 68, 74)
AEK ATHENS 1 (Savevski 16)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 17,264 *(in Trieste)*.
Ref: Zhuk (Bye)
Milan: Rossi — Tassotti (Lentini 46), Maldini, Albertini, Costacurta, Baresi, Panucci, Desailly, Simone, Donadoni (Stroppa 74), Massaro.
AEK: Atmazidis — Kopitsis (Ketspaia 77), Karagiannis, *Manolas, Sabanazovic, Vlachos, Saravakos, Savevski, Kostis, Tsartas (Agorogiannis 75), Kasapis.
** = Manolas sent off, 89min.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	4	2	2	0	5	2	6
Milan	4	2	1	1	5	3	3
Salzburg	4	0	3	1	1	4	3
AEK Athens	4	0	2	2	2	4	2

Milan deducted 2pts

CUP-WINNERS CUP

2nd rnd — 1st leg
(October 20 unless stated)

BESIKTAS 2 (Mehmet 39, Ertugrul 43)
AUXERRE 2 (Moussa Saib 53, Martins 58)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,900.

BRONDBY 1 (Strudal 53)
ARSENAL 2 (Wright 16, Smith 18)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 13,406. **Ref:** W Muller (Ger)

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Staelens 4 pen)
PANATHINAIKOS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** M Batta (Fra)

CHELSEA 0
FK AUSTRIA 0
Att: 22,560. **Ref:** Ouzounov (Bul).

FEYENOORD 1 (Larsson 63)
WERDER BREMEN 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000.

FC PORTO 6 (Costa 15, Barros 17, Drulovic 40, 60, Oliveira 85, Pires Alves 87)
FERENCVAROS 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 16,000.

SAMPDORIA 3 (Melli 45, Mihajlovic 76, Maspero 83)
GRASSHOPPER 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000.

TATRAN PRESOV 0
REAL ZARAGOZA 4 (Poyet 26, Varga 44, Esnaider 49, 88)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 12,105.

CUP-WINNERS CUP

2nd rnd — 2nd leg
(November 3)

ARSENAL 2 (Wright 25 pen, Selley 46)
BRONDBY 2 (Bo Hansen 2, Eggen 69)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 32,290.
Arsenal 4-3 on agg

AUXERRE 2 (Lamouchi 45, 49)
BESIKTAS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000.
Auxerre 4-2 on agg

FERENCVAROS 2 (Zavadszky 27, Neagoe 59)
FC PORTO 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000.
FC Porto 6-2 on agg

FK AUSTRIA 1 (Narbekovas 73)
CHELSEA 1 (Spencer 40)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 25,000.
Chelsea on away goals, agg 1-1

GRASSHOPPER 3 (Willems 12, Bickel 51, Koller 55)
SAMPDORIA 2 (Melli 17, Lombardo 40)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** l2,000
Sampdoria 5-3 on agg

PANATHINAIKOS 0
CLUB BRUGGE 0
Att: 70,000
Club Brugge 1-0 on agg

WERDER BREMEN 3 (Beschastnykh 12, 60, Basler 90)
FEYENOORD 4 (Larsson 21, 34, 66 pen, Heus 56 pen)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 31,118.
Feyenoord 5-3 on agg

REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Esnaider 5, Celada 56)
TATRAN PRESOV 1 (Kocis 38)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 9,000 (in Valencia)
Real Zaragoza 6-1 on agg

UEFA CUP

2nd rnd — 1st leg
(October 18 unless stated)

ADMIRA 1 (Gager 36 pen)
CANNES 1 (Bedrossian 67)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,000.

AIK STOCKHOLM 0
PARMA 1 (Massimo Crippa 72)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,146.

BOAVISTA 1 (Sanchez 26)
NAPOLI 1 (Carbone 58)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,000

GKS KATOWICE 1 (Strojek 85)
BORDEAUX 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 8,000

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Sforza 74)
OB ODENSE 1 (Hemmingsen 72)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 19,872

KISPEST HONVED 0
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Munch 16, Sergio 80)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 8,500.

MARITIMO 0
JUVENTUS 1 (Ravanelli 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,500.

MOSCOW DYNAMO 2 (Simutenkov 65, Cheryshev 69)
REAL MADRID 2 (Sandro 22, Zamorano 73)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 7,000.

NANTES 2 (Ouedec 32 pen, 62)
TEKSTILSHCHIK KAMYSHIN 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 34,000

NEWCASTLE 3 (Fox 9, Beardsley 34 pen, Cole 56)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Ciganda 71, Suances 79)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 32,140. **Ref:** H Krug (Ger)

RAPID BUCHAREST 2 (Vladoiu 67, Voinea 77)
EIN. FRANKFURT 1 (Furtok 64)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,500 (Oct 19).

SION 2 (Wicky 24, Kunz 43)
MARSEILLE 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 18,000.

SLOVAN BRATISLAVA 2 (Rusnak 51, Tittel 60)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1 (Moller 17)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 18,060.

FC TIROL 2 (Sane 30, Stoger 56)
LA CORUNA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 11,000

TRABZONSPOR 1 (O Kaynak 76)
ASTON VILLA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 29,500. **Ref:** M Piraux (Bel)

TRELLEBORGS 0
LAZIO 0
Att: 7,303.

UEFA CUP
2nd rnd — 2nd legs
(November 1 unless stated)

ASTON VILLA 2 (Atkinson 77, Ehiogu 90)
TRABZONSPOR 1 (O Kaynak 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 23,858.
Trabzonspor on away goals, agg 2-2

ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Ciganda 66)
NEWCASTLE UNITED 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 47,000.
Bilbao on away goals, agg 3-3

LEVERKUSEN 5 (Kirsten 29, 65, 69, Hapal 31, Mario Tolkmitt 60)
KISPEST-HONVED 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 14,900
Bayer Leverkusen 7-0 on agg

BORDEAUX 1 (Histilloles 18)
GKS KATOWICE 1 (Walczak 70 pen)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000
GKS Katowice 2-1 on agg

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 (Moller 15, Riedle 46, 68)
SLOVAN BRATISLAVA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 32,534 *(Nov 3).*
Borussia Dortmund 4-2 on agg

CANNES 2 (Kozniku 49, Charvet 87)
ADMIRA WACKER 3 (Mayrleb 8, Klausz 17, 56, Schiener 24)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 12,000
Admira Wacker 5-3 on agg

EIN. FRANKFURT 5 (Bommer 10, Yeboah 14, 17, Furtok 65, 67)
RAPID BUCHAREST 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 12,000.
Eintracht Frankfurt 6-2 on agg

JUVENTUS 2 (Ravanelli 34, 53)
MARITIMO 1 (Alves Paulo 80)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,300.
Juventus 3-1 on agg

LA CORUNA 4 (Claudio 35, 38, Donato 39 pen, Manjarin 71)
TIROL INNSBRUCK 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 29,000.
Deportivo La Coruna 4-2 on agg

LAZIO 1 (Boksic 90)
TRELLEBORGS 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,000.
Lazio 1-0 on agg

MARSEILLE 3 (Libbra 46, 64, Ferreri 73)
SION 1 (Kunz 5)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,000
Sion on away goals, agg 3-3

NAPOLI 2 (Agostini 18, 35)
BOAVISTA 1 (Luciano 77)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 45,000
Napoli 3-2 on agg

OB ODENSE 0
KAISERSLAUTERN 0
Att: 14,192.
OB on away goals, agg 1-1

PARMA 2 (Minotti 5, 16)
AIK STOCKHOLM 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 5,301.
Parma 3-0 on agg

REAL MADRID 4 (Zamorano 48, Redondo 77, Dani 89, 91)
MOSCOW DYNAMO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 70,000.
Real Madrid 6-2 on agg

TEKSTILSHCHIK 1 (Polstianov 67)
NANTES 2 (Ouedec 48, 64)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 2,000 *(in Moscow).*
Nantes 4-1 on agg

UEFA CUP – 3RD RND DRAW

BAYER LEVERKUSEN V GKS KATOWICE, LA CORUNA V BORUSSIA DORTMUND, TRABZONSPOR V LAZIO, JUVENTUS V ADMIRA WACKER, NANTES V SION, EINTRACHT FRANKFURT V NAPOLI, ODENSE BK V REAL MADRID, ATHLETIC BILBAO V PARMA
Ties to be played Nov 22 & Dec 6

INTERNATIONAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Oct 8 = Yerevan — Euro Chp gp 2
ARMENIA 0
CYPRUS 0
Att: 6,000. **Ref:** Bremisla (Pol)
Armenia: Abramian — Sourkiasan, Hatslatian (Kerpasian 46), Donodjian, Hovasian — Vardanian, Bedrosian, Grigorian, Adamian — A Abedasian, Mekhitarian (B Abedasian 79).
Cyprus: Christofi — Kalotheou, Pittas, D Ioannou, Stefani — Zempasis, Charalambous, Sotiriou, Gogic — Fasouliotis (Malekos 70), Savidis.

Oct 8 = Tallinn — Euro Chp 4
ESTONIA 0
ITALY 2 (Panucci 20, Casiraghi 77)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Muller (Swi)
Estonia: Poom — Lemsalu, T Kallaste, Alonen, Kalvan (Kallaste 75), Kaljend, Kristal, Reim, Krom (Olumets 70), Linnumae, Kirs.
Italy: Pagliuca — Panucci, Favalli (Apolloni 86), Evani (Albertini 85), Costacurta, Maldini, Rambaudi, D Baggio, Casiraghi, Zola, Signori.

Oct 8 = St Etienne — Euro Chp gp 1
FRANCE 0
ROMANIA 0
Att: 31,744. **Ref:** Sundell (Swe)
France: Lama — Angloma, Blanc, Roche, Lizarazu — Desailly, Karembeu, Pedros, Cantona — Loko (Dugarry 83), Ouedec (Zidane 71).
Romania: Stelea — Petrescu, Belodedici, Prodan, Lupescu — Selymes, Popescu, D Timofte (Lacatus 71), Hagi — Dumitrescu, Raducioiu (Panduru 80).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Oct 9 = Zagreb — Euro Chjp gp 4
CROATIA 2 (Jerkan 56, Kozniku 61)
LITHUANIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.
Croatia: Ladic — Mladenovic, Jarni, Bilic, Jerkan, Stimac, Kozniku, Asanovic, Suker, Boban, Boksic.
Lithuania: Stauce — Ziukas, Gudaitis, Tereskinac, Stonkus, Vainoras, Sukristovas, Stumbrys, Suika, Ivanauskas, Zalys.

Oct 9 = Riga — Euro Chp gp 6
LATVIA 1 (Milevsky 88)
PORTUGAL 3 (Joao Vieira Pinto 33, 72, Figo 73)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 1,900. **Ref:** Blareau (Bel).
Latvia: Karavayev — Troitskys, Astafyevs, Zemlinskis, Shevlyakov, Sprogis (Moniak 69), Stepanovs, Ivanovs, Babichev, Glazovs (Milevsky 46), Semyonov.
Portugal: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto I, Helder, Paulo Madeira, Nelo, Paulo Sousa, Vitor Paneira (Paulo Alves 60), Joao Vieira Pinto II, Figo (Tavares 81), Rui Costa, Domingos Oliveira.

Oct 9 = Dakar — friendly
SENEGAL 3 (M Ndiaye 3, 32, S Diatta 75)
NIGERIA 1 (Bertin 55)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000.
Senegal: W Ndiaye — Kaire, L Cisse, Male, I Sarr (Fassaye 75) — T BAdiane, M Camara, Napel (C Tali 70), A Yoro Ndiaye — M Ndiaye (S Diatta 70), Sanokho (Tidiane Faye 75).
Nigeria: Garba (Bicko 75) — B T Djibo, H Bakine, Botto, Diabate — Issotou, D Djibo (Labo 78), Anabery, Tankary (Amidou 55) — Bertin, Yahaya (Baly 65).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Oct 12 = Vienna — Euro Chp gp 6
AUSTRIA 1 (Polster 25 pen)
NORTHERN IRELAND 2 (Gillespie 3, P Gray 36)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Nieto (Spa).
Austria: Wohlfart — Feiersinger, Werner-Klasu, Kogler, Schottel, Prosenik (Pfeifenberger 67), Ogris (Hasenhuttl 46), Artner, Polster, Stoger, Hutter.
N Ireland: Kee, Fleming, Worthington, Taggart, McDonald, Lomas, Gillespie (O'Neil 56), Magilton, Dowie (Quinn 74), Gray, Hughes.

Oct 12 = Minsk — Euro Chp gp 5
BYELORUSSIA 2 (Romashchenko 67, Gerasimets 76)
LUXEMBOURG 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 8,500. **Ref:** O'Hanlon (RI)
Byelorussia: Shantolosov — Gurenko, Yakhimovich, Zygmantovich, Rodnyonok (Sosnitsky 80), Romashchenko, Metlitsky, Shukanov, Gerasimets, Aleinikov, Markhel (Antonovich 68).
Luxembourg: Koch — Ferron (Vanek 83), Strussel, Birsens, Wolf, Cardoni, Hellers, Waise, Holz (Morocutti 60), Saibene, Fanelli.

Oct 12 = Sofia — Euro Chp gp 7
BULGARIA 2 (Kostadinov 56, 62)
GEORGIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 45,000. **Ref:** Gadosi (Slovak)
Bulgaria: Popov — Kiryakov, Ivanov, Tsvetanov, Hubchev, Yankov, Lechkov, Borimirov (Kostadinov 56), Stoichkov, Sirakov (Penev 70), Balakov.
Georgia: Devadze — Chihradze, Revishvili, Zhadadze, Sheliya, Kudinov, Nemsadze (Inalishvili 74), Kinkladze, Gogichaishvili, Kezbaya, S Arveladze (Guruli 79).

Oct 12 = Copenhagen — Euro Chp gp 2
DENMARK 3 (Vilfort 35, Jensen 70, Strudal 85)
BELGIUM 1 (Degryse 30)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 40,075. **Ref:** Pairetto (Ita)
Denmark: Schmeichel — Olsen, Rieper, Helveg, Friis-Hansen, Risager (Kjeldbjerg 76), Vilfort (Jensen 70), Steen Nielsen, M Laudrup, B Laudrup, Strudal.
Belgium: Bodart — Genaux, Albert, Smidts, Van Meir, Borkelmans (Oliveira 76), Staelens, Van der Elst, Verheyen, Degryse, Weber.

Oct 12 = Wembley — friendly
ENGLAND 1 (R Lee 44)
ROMANIA 1 (Dumitrescu 38)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 48,754. **Ref:** Quiniou (Fra)
England: Seaman — Jones (Pearce 58), Le Saux, Ince, Adams, Pallister, Robert Lee (Wise 71), Wright (Sheringham 71), Shearer, Barnes, Le Tissier.
Romania: Stelea (Prunea 87) — Petrescu, Prodan, Belodedici, Lupescu, Popescu, Lacatus (Cirstea 80), Dumitrescu, Raducioiu (Timofte 77), Hagi (Selymes 46), Munteanu.

Oct 12 = Salonika — Euro Chp gp 8
GREECE 4 (Markou 23, Batista 70, Mahlas 76, 89)
FINLAND 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Leduc (Fra)
Greece: Atmatsides — Apostolakis, Kasapis, Dabizas, Kalitzakis, Tsalouhides, Zagorakis, Markos (Toursounides 65), Mahlas, Tsartas, Vryzas (Batista 43).
Finland: Jakonen — Makela, Kanerva, Hyrylainen, Heinola (Holmgren 30), Suominen, Jarvinen (Sumiala 72), Lindberg, Hjelm, Litmanen, Paatelainen.

Oct 12 = Budapest — friendly
HUNGARY 0
GERMANY 0
Att: 20,000. **Ref:** Zen Ruffinen (Swi)
Hungary: Petry — Banfi (Berczy 46), Lipcsei, Lorincz, Duro (Vaczi 46), Halmai (Szlezak 46), Kozma, Detari (Weber 58), Urban, Kiprich, Klausz (Lisztes 67).
Germany: Kopke — Matthaus (Reuter 46), Kohler, D Schuster, Strunz, Todt, Eilts (Wagner 46), Weber, Hassler, Bobic (Marschall 85), Klinsmann.

Oct 12 = Tel Aviv — Euro Chp gp 1
ISRAEL 2 (Harazi 26, Gaibanin 35pen)
SLOVAKIA 2 (Rusnak 7, Moravcik 16)
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Blankenstein (Hol)
Israel: Ginsburg — Balbul, Glam, Hazan, A Harazi, Klinger (Nimni 62), Banin (Shelah 69), Revivo, Berkowitz, R Harazi, Rosenthal.
Slovakia: Molnar — Stupala, Zemian, Glonek, Kinder, Tittel, Weiss (Kozak 74), Rusnak (Zvara 75), Kristofik, Dubovsky, Moravcik.

Oct 12 = Skopje — Euro Chp gp 2
MACEDONIA 0
SPAIN 2 (Salinas 16, 25)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Grabner (Aut)
Macedonia: Trajcev (Celeski 51) — Stanojkovic, Stojkovski, Djurovski, Najdoski, Jovanovski, Boskovski, Savevski, Micevski, Djurovski (Serafimovski 70), Babunski (Markovski 40).
Spain: Zubizarreta — Ferrer, Abelardo, Alkorta, Caminero, Nadal, Hierro (Amavisca 76), Sergi, Luis Enrique, Higuera, Salinas (Cherubino Loggi 65).

Oct 12 = Valletta — Euro Chp gp 5
MALTA 0
CZECH REPUBLIC 0
Att: 4,000. **Ref:** M Coroado (Por)
Malta: Cluett — Saliba (Santfournier 77), Carabott (E Camilleri 90), *Galea, Vella, Buttigieg, Busuttil, G Brincat, Gregory, Laferla, J Camilleri.
** = Galea sent off, 61min.*
Czech Rep: Srnicek — Kubik, Suchoparek, *Novotny, Latal, Nemec, Nemecek (Kadlec), Hlasek, Smejkal (M Frydek), Skuhravy, Kuka.
** = Novotny sent off, 57min.*

Oct 12 = Chisinau — Euro Chp gp 7
MOLDOVA 3 (Belous 9, Seku 29, Pogorelov 79)
WALES 2 (Speed 6, Blake 70)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Vai (Hun)
Moldova: Koselev — Secu, Belous (E Karas 81), Pogorelov, S Stroenco, Oprea, Kurtean, Nani, Spiridon, Mitirev (Kosse 46), Rebeja.
Wales: Southall — Coleman, Blake (Melville 81), Phillips, Bowen, Horne, Roberts, Speed, Simons, Williams, Pembridge.

Oct = Oslo — Euro Chp gp 5
NORWAY 1 (Rekdal 52)
HOLLAND 1 (Roy 22)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 22,293. **Ref:** McCluskey (Sco)
Norway: Thorstvedt — Lydersen, Berg, T Pedersen, Bjornebye, Rushfeldt (Flo 63), Bohinen, Rekdal, Mykland, Leonhardsen, Fjortoft (Frigard 77).
Holland: De Goey — Blind, Reiziger (Van Gobbel 77), Valckx, F De Boer, Winter, Jonk, Rob Witschge, Overmars, Bergkamp (R De Boer 71), Roy.

Oct 12 = Mielec — Euro Chp gp 1
POLAND 1 (Juskowiak 45)
AZERBIAJAN 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Koho (Fin)
Poland: Wandzik — Jaskulski, Lapinski (Maciejewski 78), Waldoch, P Swier-czewski, Czereszewski, Kozminski (Fedoruk 70), Brzeczek, Kosecki, K Warzycha, Juskowiak.
Azerbaijan: Zhidkov — Allacherdev, Kerimov, Achmedov, Asadov, Abushev (Kurbanov 89), Huseinov, Diniev, Mardanov, Kasumov, Alekperov.

Oct 12 = Dublin — Euro Chp gp 6
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND 4 (Coyne 2, 4, Quinn 30, 82)
LIECHTENSTEIN 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 32,980. **Ref:** Berimann (Ice)
Rep Ireland: Bonner — G Kelly, Irwin (McLoughlin 46), Kernaghan, Babb, McAteer, McGoldrick, Coyne, Quinn, Sheridan, Staunton.
Liechtenstein: Heeb — Hefti, Ritter, Oupelt, Moser, Telser, Hanselmann, Zeth, Frick, Haas (Hasler 76), Heidegge (Matt 74).

Oct 12 = Moscow — Euro Chp gp 8
RUSSIA 4 (Karpin 42, Kolyvanov 63, Nikiforov 64, Radchenko 66)
SAN MARINO 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Hamer (Lux)
Russia: Cherchesov — Kulkov (Tetradze 65), Nikiforov, Tsymbalar (Kolyvanov 55), Shalimov, Karpin, Onopko, Kanchelskis, Piatnitski, Radchenko, Kiriakov.
San Marino: Benedettini — L Gobbi, Gennari, M Mazza, Valentini, Guerra, (Della Valle 23), Manzaroli, Matteoni, Bacciocchi, Bonini, Francini (Canti 67).

Oct 12 = Hampden — Euro Chp gp 8
SCOTLAND 5 (McGinley 4, Booth 34, Collins 40, 72, McKinley 61)
FAROE ISLANDS 1 (Muller 75)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 20,885. **Ref:** Hauge (Nor).
Scotland: Goram — McKimmie, Boyd, McLaren, Hendry (McKinley 58), Levein, Nevin, McStay, McGinlay, Booth (Walker 70), Collins.
Faroe Islands: Knudsen — J Hansen, T Hansen, Johannesen, O Hansen (Rasmussen 73), Dam (Joensen 53), M Jarnskor, K Morkore, Muller, T Jonsson, H Jarnskor.

Oct 12 = Bern — Euro Chp gp 3
SWITZERLAND 4 (Ohrel 36, Sforza 79, Turkyilmaz 80, Blomqvist og 63)
SWEDEN 2 (K Andersson 4, Dahlin 61)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** Elleray (Eng)
Switzerland: Pascolo — Hottiger, Herr, Geiger, Thueler, Ohrel, Yakin (Henchoz 83), Sforza, Sutter, Grassi (Kubilay Turkyilmaz 70), Chapuisat.
Sweden: Ravelli — Kamark, Bjorklund, P Andersson, R Nilsson, Blomqvist (Larsson 82), Schwarz, Thern (Mild 49), Brolin, Dahlin, K Andersson.

Oct 12 = Istanbul — Euro Chp gp 3
TURKEY 5 (Saffet 11, 28, Hakan 30, 62, Sergen 65)
ICELAND 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Levnikov (Rus)
Turkey: Engin (Rustu 86) — Recep, Bulent, K Gokhan, Oguz, Ogun, Abdullah, Orhan (Mutlu 5), Arif, Saffet, Hakan (Sergen 65).
Iceland: B Kristinsson (Finnbogason 3) — R Kristinsson, K Jonsson, Bergsson, S Gislason, S Jonsson, Stefansson (B Gunnlaugsson 86), Orlygsson, Gudjohnsen, Sverrison, A Gunnlaugsson (A Gretarsson 72).

Oct 12 = Kiev — Euro Chp 4
UKRAINE 0
SLOVENIA 0
Att: 12,000. **Ref:** Oezenov (Bul)
Ukraine: Tiapushkin — Luzhny, Dyriavka, Kuznetsov, Shmatovalenko, Kovalets, Lezheniev, Mikhailichenko (Petrov 76), Mikhailenko, Leonenko, Konovalov (Huseinov 66).
Slovenia: Boskovic — Galic, Krizan, Milanic, Jermanis, Ceh, Novak (Kokol 77), Zidan, Benedejcic, Udovic (Gliha 62), Florjancic.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

Oct 14 = Nouakchott — Af Chp gp 2
MAURITANIA 1 (Ould Malha 25)
GUINEA BISSAU 1 (Mane 87)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 5,000.

Oct 14 = Cairo — Af Chp gp 4
EGYPT 5 (El Kas 12, 52, Salaheddin 64, H Hassan 82 pen, Fathi 84)
TANZANIA 1 (Tazali 55)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000.

Oct 14 = Algiers — Af Chp gp 4
ALGERIA 1 (Zouani 64)
SUDAN 1 (Sabri-el-Hak 11)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

Oct 15 = Blantyre — Af Chp gp 1
MALAWI 3 (H Banda 62, Maduka 83, Mpinganjira 89)
ZIMBABWE 1 (Sawu 35)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 8,000.

Oct 15 = Kampala — Af Chp gp 4
UGANDA 4 (Mutyaba 55, Tamale 75, Buwembo 79, Semwogere 84)
ETHIOPIA 1 (Dhan Elias 21)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 11,000.

Oct 15 = Mabopane — Af Chp gp 5
SOUTH AFRICA 1 (P Masinga 51)
MAURITIUS 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Oct 15 = Windhoek — Af Chp gp 6
NAMIBIA 2 (Goraseb 40, Van Wyk 57)
MALI 1 (S L Traore 89)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,000.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

Oct 16 = Douala — Af Chp gp 1
CAMEROON 1 (Mouyeme 2)
ZAIRE 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000.

Oct 16 = Lome — Af Chp gp 2
TOGO 2 (Koffi Fiawoo 50, Bachirou Salou 73)
SENEGAL 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000.

Oct 16 = Niamey — Af Chp gp 3
GHANA 5
NIGER 1
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 6,000.

Oct 16 = Freetown — Af Chp gp 3
SIERRA LEONE 3
CONGO 2
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 6,500.

Oct 16 = Conakry — Af Chp gp 6
GUINEA 3
ANGOLA 1
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Oct 16 — Maputo — Af Chp gp 6
MOZAMBIQUE 3
BOTSWANA 1
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 9,000.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Oct 19 = Dhahran — friendly

RESULTS

Euro '96 results and tables . . . South American Super Cup details. .

SAUDI ARABIA 2 (Sami Jaber 54, Al-Ghayshiyan 90)
UNITED STATES 1 (Klopas 58 pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 9,256. **Ref:** Mohamad Al Sherif (S Arabia)
Saudi Arabia: Mohamad Al-Diaye — Agmed Jameel, Mohamad Al Klaweh,Yasser Al Taife, Abudallah Solaiman, Salih Al Mutlag, Fouad Anwar, Sahid Al Awihran, Hamsha Salih (Fahad Al Khosayan 74), Samee Al Jabeerm Fahal Al Mohalal.
US: Friedel (Sommer 57) — Balboa, Doyle (Berhalter 46), Agoos, Lozzano (Ligeon 72), Sorber, Reyna, C Jones, Michallik (Deering 46), Klopas (Kirovski 78), Kerr.

ASIAN GAMES *(in Hiroshima)*

Group A: China 2 Turkmenistan 2, Bahrain 2 Yemen 0, China 4 Yemen 0, Iran 0 Bahrain 0, China 3 Bahrain 2, Iran 1 Turkmenistan 1, China 1 Iran 0, Bahrain 2 Turkmenistan 2, Iran 4 Yemen 0.
Group B: Uzbekistan 4 S Arabia 1, Malaysia 4 Hong Kong 3, Uzbekistan 5 Malaysia 0, Hong Kong 2 Thailand 1, Uzbekistan 1 Hong Kong 0, S Arabia 4 Thailand 2, Uzbekistan 5 Thailand 4, S Arabia 2 Malaysia 1, S Arabia 2 Hong Kong 1, Thailand 1 Malysia 1.
Group C: S Korea 11 Nepal 0, Oman 2 Kuwait 2, Kuwait 8 Nepal 0, S Korea 2 Oman 0, S Korea 0 Kuwait 0 , Oman 1 Nepal 0.
Group D: Burma 2 Qatar 2, Japan 1 UAE 1, UAE 2 Burma 0, Japan 1 Qatar 1, UAE 2 Qatar 2, Japan 5 Burma 0.
Quarter-finals: Kuwait 2 UAE 1, China 2 Saudi Arabia 0, Uzbekistan 3 Turkmenistan 0, S Korea 3 Japan 2.
Semi-finals: China 2 Kuwait 0, Uzbekistan 1 S Korea 0.
Third place: Kuwait 2 S Korea 1.
Final: Uzbekistan 4 China 2.

EURO '96

GROUP 1

04.09.94 Israel v Poland 2-1
07.09.94 Slovakia v France 0-0
07.09.94 Romania v Azerbaijan 3-0
08.10.94 France v Romania 0-0
12.10.94 Israel v Slovakia 2-2
12.10.94 Poland v Azerbaijan 1-0
12.11.94 Romania v Slovakia
16.11.94 Poland v France
16.11.94 Azerbaijan v Israel
14.12.94 Azerbaijan v France
14.12.94 Israel v Romania
29.03.95 Romania v Poland
29.03.95 Israel v France
29.03.95 Slovakia v Azerbaijan
25.04.95 Poland v Israel
26.04.95 France v Slovakia
26.04.95 Azerbaijan v Romania
07.06.95 Poland v Slovakia
07.06.95 Romania v Israel
16.08.95 France v Poland
16.08.95 Azerbaijan v Slovakia
06.09.95 France v Azerbaijan
06.09.95 Slovakia v Israel
06.09.95 Poland v Romania
11.10.95 Romania v France
11.10.95 Israel v Azerbaijan
11.10.95 Slovakia v Poland
15.11.95 Slovakia v Romania
15.11.95 Azerbaijan v Poland
15.11.95 France v Israel

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	2	1	1	0	3	0	4
Israel	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Poland	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Slovakia	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
France	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Azerbaijan	2	0	0	2	0	4	0

GROUP 2

07.09.94 Cyprus v Spain 1-2
07.09.94 Macedonia v Denmark 1-1
07.09.94 Belgium v Armenia 2-0
08.10.94 Armenia v Cyprus 0-0
12.10.94 Denmark v Belgium 3-1
12.10.94 Macedonia v Spain 0-2
16.11.94 Belgium v Macedonia
16.11.94 Spain v Denmark
16.11.94 Cyprus v Armenia
17.12.94 Belgium v Spain
17.12.94 Macedonia v Cyprus
29.03.95 Spain v Belgium
29.03.95 Cyprus v Denmark
26.04.95 Armenia v Spain
26.04.95 Belgium v Cyprus
26.04.95 Denmark v Macedonia
10.05.95 Armenia v Macedonia
07.06.95 Denmark v Cyprus
07.06.95 Macedonia v Belgium
07.06.95 Spain v Armenia
16.08.95 Armenia v Denmark
06.09.95 Belgium v Denmark
06.09.95 Spain v Cyprus
06.09.95 Macedonia v Armenia
07.10.95 Armenia v Belgium
11.10.95 Denmark v Spain
11.10.95 Cyprus v Macedonia
15.11.95 Spain v Macedonia
15.11.95 Cyprus v Belgium
15.11.95 Denmark v Armenia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Denmark	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Belgium	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Cyprus	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Macedonia	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Armenia	2	0	1	1	0	2	1

GROUP 3

07.09.94 Iceland v Sweden 0-1
07.09.94 Hungary v Turkey 2-2
12.10.94 Turkey v Iceland 5-0
12.10.94 Switzerland v Sweden 4-2
16.11.94 Switzerland v Iceland
16.11.94 Sweden v Hungary
14.12.94 Turkey v Switzerland
29.03.95 Turkey v Sweden
29.03.95 Hungary v Switzerland
26.04.95 Hungary v Sweden
26.04.95 Switzerland v Turkey
01.06.95 Sweden v Iceland
11.06.95 Iceland v Hungary
16.08.95 Iceland v Switzerland
06.09.95 Sweden v Switzerland
06.09.95 Turkey v Hungary
11.10.95 Switzerland v Hungary
11.10.95 Iceland v Turkey
11.11.95 Hungary v Iceland
15.11.95 Sweden v Turkey

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Turkey	2	1	1	0	7	2	4
Switzerland	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Sweden	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Hungary	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Iceland	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

GROUP 4

04.09.94 Estonia v Croatia 0-2
07.09.94 Slovenia v Italy 1-1
07.09.94 Ukraine v Lithuania 0-2
08.10.94 Estonia v Italy 0-2
09.10.94 Croatia v Lithuania 2-0
12.10.94 Ukraine v Slovenia 0-0
13.11.94 Ukraine v Estonia
16.11.94 Slovenia v Lithuania
16.11.94 Italy v Croatia
25.03.95 Italy v Estonia
25.03.95 Croatia v Ukraine
29.03.95 Slovenia v Estonia
29.03.95 Ukraine v Italy
29.03.95 Lithuania v Croatia
26.04.95 Lithuania v Italy
26.04.95 Croatia v Slovenia
26.04.95 Estonia v Ukraine
07.06.95 Lithuania v Slovenia
11.06.95 Estonia v Slovenia
11.06.95 Ukraine v Croatia
16.08.95 Estonia v Lithuania
03.09.95 Croatia v Estonia
06.09.95 Italy v Slovenia
06.09.95 Lithuania v Ukraine
08.10.95 Croatia v Italy
11.10.95 Slovenia v Ukraine
11.10.95 Lithuania v Estonia
11.11.95 Italy v Ukraine
15.11.95 Slovenia v Croatia
15.11.95 Italy v Lithuania

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	2	2	0	0	4	0	6
Italy	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Lithuania	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Slovakia	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Ukraine	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Estonia	2	0	0	2	0	4	0

GROUP 5

06.09.94 Czech Rep v Malta 6-1
07.09.94 Luxembourg v Holland 0-4
07.09.94 Norway v Byelorussia 1-0
12.10.94 Malta v Czech Rep 0-0
12.10.94 Byelorussia v Luxembourg 2-0
12.10.94 Norway v Holland 1-1
16.11.94 Byelorussia v Norway
16.11.94 Holland v Czech Rep
14.12.94 Malta v Norway
14.12.94 Holland v Luxembourg
22.02.95 Malta v Luxembourg
29.03.95 Czech Rep v Byelorussia
29.03.95 Luxembourg v Norway
29.03.95 Holland v Malta
26.04.95 Byelorussia v Malta
26.04.95 Czech Rep v Holland
26.04.95 Norway v Luxembourg
07.06.95 Byelorussia v Holland
07.06.95 Luxembourg v Czech Rep
07.06.95 Norway v Malta
16.08.95 Norway v Czech Rep
06.09.95 Czech Rep v Norway
06.09.95 Luxembourg v Malta
06.09.95 Holland v Byelorussia
07.10.95 Byelorussia v Czech Rep
11.10.95 Malta v Holland
11.10.95 Luxembourg v Byelorussia
12.11.95 Malta v Byelorussia
15.11.95 Czech Rep v Luxembourg
15.11.95 Holland v Norway

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Czech Republic	2	1	1	0	6	1	4
Holland	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
Norway	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Byelorussia	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Malta	2	0	1	1	1	6	1
Luxembourg	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

GROUP 6

20.04.94 N. Ireland v Liechtenstein 4-1
07.09.94 Liechtenstein v Austria 0-4
07.09.94 N. Ireland v Portugal 1-2
07.09.94 Latvia v Rep. Ireland 0-3
09.10.94 Latvia v Portugal 1-3
12.10.94 Austria v N. Ireland 1-2
12.10.94 Rep. Ireland v Liechtenstein 4-0
13.11.94 Portugal v Austria
15.11.94 Liechtenstein v Latvia
16.11.94 N. Ireland v Rep. Ireland
18.12.94 Portugal v Liechtenstein
29.03.95 Rep. Ireland v N. Ireland
29.03.95 Austria v Latvia
26.04.95 Rep. Ireland v Portugal
26.04.95 Latvia v N. Ireland
26.04.95 Austria v Liechtenstein
03.06.95 Portugal v Latvia
03.06.95 Liechtenstein v Rep. Ireland
07.06.95 N. Ireland v Latvia
11.06.95 Rep. Ireland v Austria
15.08.95 Liechtenstein v Portugal
16.08.95 Latvia v Austria
03.09.95 Portugal v N. Ireland
06.09.95 Austria v Rep. Ireland
06.09.95 Latvia v Liechtenstein
11.10.95 Rep. Ireland v Latvia
11.10.95 Austria v Portugal
11.10.95 Liechtenstein v N. Ireland
15.11.95 Portugal v Rep. Ireland
15.11.95 N. Ireland v Austria

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rep. Ireland	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
Northern Ireland	3	2	0	1	7	4	6
Portugal	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
Austria	2	1	0	1	5	2	3
Latvia	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Liechtenstein	3	0	0	3	1	12	0

GROUP 7

07.09.94 Wales v Albania 2-0
07.09.94 Georgia v Moldova 0-1
12.10.94 Moldova v Wales 3-2
12.10.94 Bulgaria v Georgia 2-0
16.11.94 Albania v Germany
16.11.94 Georgia v Wales
16.11.94 Bulgaria v Moldova
14.12.94 Wales v Bulgaria
14.12.94 Moldova v Germany
14.12.94 Albania v Georgia
18.12.94 Germany v Albania
29.03.95 Georgia v Germany
29.03.95 Bulgaria v Wales
29.03.95 Albania v Moldova
26.04.95 Germany v Wales
26.04.95 Moldova v Bulgaria
26.04.95 Georgia v Albania
07.06.95 Bulgaria v Germany
07.06.95 Wales v Georgia
07.06.95 Moldova v Albania
06.09.95 Germany v Georgia
06.09.95 Wales v Moldova
06.09.95 Albania v Bulgaria
07.10.95 Bulgaria v Albania
08.10.95 Germany v Moldova
11.10.95 Wales v Germany
11.10.95 Georgia v Bulgaria
15.11.95 Germany v Bulgaria
15.11.95 Albania v Wales
15.11.95 Moldova v Georgia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Moldova	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Bulgaria	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Wales	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Germany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Albania	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Georgia	2	0	0	2	0	3	0

GROUP 8

07.09.94 Finland v Scotland 0-2
07.09.94 Faroe Islands v Greece 1-5
12.10.94 Scotland v Faroe Islands 5-1
12.10.94 Greece v Finland 4-0
12.10.94 Russia v San Marino 4-0
16.11.94 Scotland v Russia
16.11.94 Greece v San Marino
16.11.94 Finland v Faroe Islands
14.12.94 Finland v San Marino
18.12.94 Greece v Scotland
29.03.94 Russia v Scotland
29.03.95 San Marino v Finland
26.04.95 San Marino v Scotland
26.04.95 Greece v Russia
26.04.95 Faroe Islands v Finland
06.05.95 Russia v Faroe Islands
25.05.95 Faroe Islands v San Marino
07.06.95 Faroe Islands v Scotland
07.06.95 San Marino v Russia
11.06.95 Finland v Greece
16.08.95 Scotland v Greece
16.08.95 Finland v Russia
06.09.95 Scotland v Finland
06.09.95 Faroe Islands v Russia
06.09.95 San Marino v Greece
11.10.95 Russia v Greece
11.10.95 San Marino v Faroe Islands
15.11.95 Scotland v San Marino
15.11.95 Russia v Finland
15.11.95 Greece v Faroe Islands

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	2	2	0	0	9	1	6
Scotland	2	2	0	0	7	1	6
Russia	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
San Marino	1	0	0	1	0	4	0
Finland	2	0	0	2	0	6	0
Faroe Islands	2	0	0	2	2	10	0

SOUTH AMERICA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

In Machala, Ecuador.
ECUADOR 0
PERU 0
Ref: Jorge Orellana.
Ecuador: Cevallos, Coronel, Tenorio, Noriega, Capurro, H. Carabali, W. Carabali (Fajardo), Y. Hurtado, Uquillas, Fernandez (Sanchez), E. Hurtado (Cherrez).
Peru: Pizarro, Jorge Soto, Dulanto, Jose Soto, Ubillas, Rosero, (Rivera), Carranza, Solano (Carmona), Palacios, Saenz (Delgario), Muchotrigo.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

In Santiago, Chile.
CHILE 1 (Tudor pen)
BOLIVIA 2 (Ramallo, Pinedo)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Francisco Lamolina (Arg). **Att:** 20,000.
Chile: Tapia, Fuentes (Reyes), Ardiman, J.C. Gonzalez (Castaneda), Contreras (Tupper), Mendoza, M. Ramirez, Guevara, P. Gonzalez (Tudor), Vega, Salas (Barrera).

INTER-AMERICAN CUP
(between South American and Central American club champions)

1st leg = **Sept 15, in San Jose, CR**
SAPRISSA (CR) 3 (Myers, Fonseca, Wanchope)
UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA (Chi) 1 (S. Vazquez)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Juan Escobar (Guat).
Saprissa: Lonnis, Quesada, Wright, Diaz, Salazar, Cordero, Mayorga, Ramirez, Myers (Moreira), Fonseca, Coronado (Wanchope).
Univ. Catolica: Toledo, Tupper, S. Vazquez, Lopez, Lepe, Romero (Olmos), J. Vazquez, Gorosito, Acosta, Tudor (Barrera), Gomez.

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPER CUP

1st rnd — 1st leg

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
FLAMENGO (Bra) 0
ESTUDIANTES (Arg) 0
Ref: Eduardo Dluzniewski (Uru).
Flamengo: Gilmar, Isael, Gelson, Paulo Paiva, Serginho, Charles, Fabinho, Marquinhos, Nelio, Magno, Savio.
Estudiantes: Bossio, Llop, Rojas, Mendez, Tratolla, Squadrone, Galeano, Calderon, Sosa, Ralecano, Armentano.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
PENAROL (Uru) 1 (Bengoechea)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Marcio Rezende (Bra).
Penarol: Ferro, Olveira, Aquirregaray, De lose Santos, Romero, Martinez, Baltierra, Bengoechea, Aquilera, Silva, Rodriguez (Pacheco).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montova, Sonora, Gamboa, Fabbri, MacAllister, Farias, Carrizo, Rudman, (Acuna), Pico (Marcico), Trellez, Marquez.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

In Santiago, Chile.
COLO COLO (Chi) 4 (Toninho 3, Pizarro)
ARGENTINOS JUN (Arg) 1 (C. Torres)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 16,700. **Ref:** Chapell (Peru)
Colo Colo: Marcelo Ramirez, H. Gonzalez, Reves, R. Gonzalez, Mendoza, Miguel Ramirez, Pizarro, Vega (Facchia), Etcheverrey (Rojas), Toninho, Yanez.
Argentinos Juniors: Cousillas, Germano, C. Russo, Traverso (Gomez), Sorini, Sacciuto, Gancedo, Dollberg, Mas (Comas), C. Torres, Ramos.

In Porto Alegre, Brazil
GREMIO (Bra) 1 (Fabinho)
RACING CLUB (Arg) 1 (Garcia)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Juan Escobar (Par).
Gremio: Danrlei, Ayupe, Luciano, Agnaldo, Roger, Pingo, Jamir (Jacques), Emerson (Arilson), Carlos Miguel, Fabinho, Osias.
Racing Club: Gonzalez, Clausen, Borelli, Costas, Reinoso, Michelini, Quiroz, Struway, Lopez, Garcia (Saralegui), Fleita.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

In Medellin, Colombia.
ATLETICO NACIONAL (Col) 0
SAO PAULO (Bra) 2 (Caio, Euller)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 45,000.

1st rnd — 2nd leg

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
NACIONAL (Uru) 0
RIVER PLATE (Arg) 1 (Amato)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Joao Araujo (Bra).
River Plate won 3-2 on agg
Nacional: Sere, Mendez, Rodriquez, Canals, Dominques, Gutierrez, Abeijon, Larre (Badell), Lemos (Gonzalez), Canobbio, O'Neill.
River Plate: Burgos, Diaz, Ayala, Rivarola, Altamirano (Amato), Toresani (Francescoli), Astrada, Berti, Cedres, Ortega, Crespo.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

In Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
CRUZEIRO (Bra) 4 (Cleisson 2, Nonato, Edenilson)
OLIMPIA (Par) 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000.
Cruzeiro won 4-2 on agg
Cruzeiro: Dida, Zelao, Luisinho, Rogerio, Nonato, Ademir, Toninho Cerezo, Jean Carlos, Macale, Cleisson, Roberto Gaucho.
Olimpia: Battaglia, Caceres, Caniza, Castro, Suarez, Raja, V. Sanabria, Sotelo, Franco, M. Sanabria, Cardozo.

In Avellaneda, Argentina.
INDEPENDIENTE (Arg) 4 (Arzeno, Usuriaga, Rambert, pen)
SANTOS (Bra) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Matto (Uru). **Att:** 35,000.
Independiente won 4-1 on agg
Independiente: Islas, Craviotto, Arzeno, Rios, Ramirez, Cagna, Perez, Garnero, Lopez, Rambert (Parodi), Usuriaga (Vidal).
Santos: Edinho, Indio, Junior, Marcelo Fernandes, Silva, Dinho (Cerezo), Gallo, Macedo, Ranielli (Netto), Guga, Kobayashi.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

In La Plata, Argentina.
ESTUDIANTES (Arg) 2 (Ferreira, Mendez)
FLAMENGO (Bra) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Sabino Farina (Par).
Att: 14,000.
Estudiantes won 2-0 on agg
Estudiantes: Bossio, Ramos, Llop, Pratola, Rojas, Paris, Martinez (Galeano), Veron, Capria, Ferreira (Sosa), Mendez.
Flamengo: Gilmar, Charles, Gelson, Indio, Marcos Adriano, Fabinho, Hugo, Rodrigo (Fabio Bahiano), Nelio (Ualas), Magno, Savio.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 4 (Da Silva, Carranza, Pico, Fabbri)
PENAROL (Uru) 1 (Aguilera)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Claudio Cerdeira (Bra).
Att: 25,000.
Boca Juniors won 4-2 on agg
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Vivas (Sonora), Gamboa, Fabbri, Arruabarrena, Acuna, Carrizo, Marcico, Carranza, Martinez (Pico), Da Silva.
Penarol: Ferro, Olveira, Aquirregaray, De los Santos, Lima, Martinez, Dortea, Bengoechea, Aquilera, Otero, Silva.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Comas)
COLO COLO (Chi) 1 (Vega)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Rene Ortube (Bol).
Colo Colo won 5-2 on agg
Argentinos Juniors: Cousillas, Germano, Cuffaro Russo, Traverso, Gomez, Lopez, Gancedo, Dollberg, Comas, C. Torres (Ramos), Calvo (Mas).
Colo Colo: Marcelo Ramirez, R. Gonzalez, H. Gonzalez, Reyes, Margas, Mendoza, Miguel Ramirez, Pizarro, Etcheverry, Toninho (Fracchia), Yanez (Vega).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

In Sao Paulo, Brazil
SAO PAULO (Bra) 1 (Palhinha)
NACIONAL (Col) 1 (Serna pen)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Francisco Lamolina (Arg). **Att:** 5,500.
Sao Paulo won on 3-1 agg
Sao Paulo: Zetti, Cafu, Junior Baiano, Gilmar, Andre, Doriva, Alemao, Sierra(Juninho), Palhinha, Euller, Caio.
Nacional: Higuita, Herrera, Marulanda, Foronda, Mosquera, Perea, Gaviria, Garcia, Serna, Aristizabal, Ceballos.

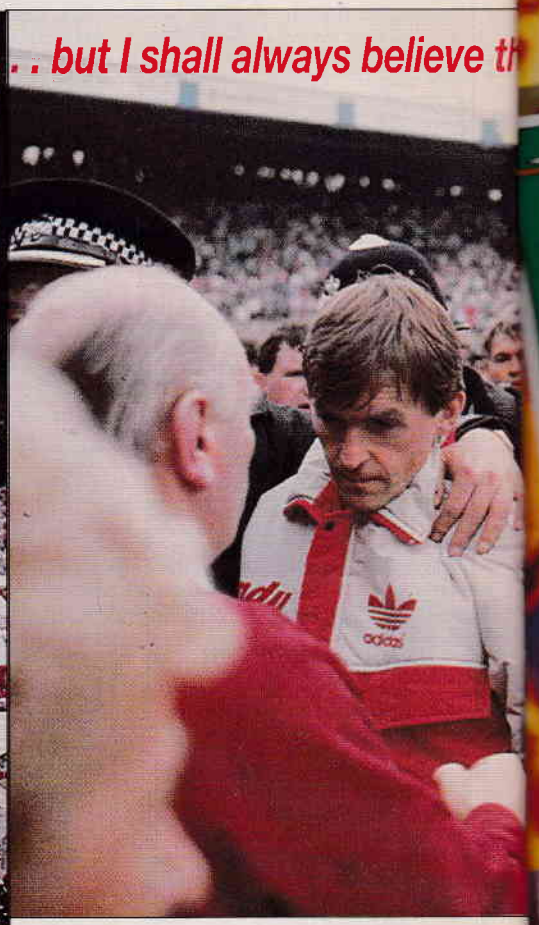
In Avellaneda, Argentina.
RACING (Arg) 1 (De Vicente)
GREMIO (Bra) 2 (Fabinho, Carlinho)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** J. Da Rosa (Uru).
Racing: Gonzalez, Reinoso (Galarza), Borelli, Costas, Soca, Micheiini, Struway, Saralegui, De Vicente, Garcia, Lopez.
Gremio: Danrlei, Ayupe, Agnaldo, Luciano, Roger, Pingo, Jamir, Grotto (Leonidas), Arilson, Fabinho, Carlinhos.

BRIAN GLANVILLE'S
LAST WORD

Clough picks the w

'I've no wish to demonise or sanctify Liverpool fans . . . but I shall always believe th

Anfield remembers . . . the floral tributes to thevictims of Hillsborough



I AM saddened that Brian Clough, in his recent autobiography, should seek to put the blame for the Hillsborough disaster on Liverpool's supporters.

I am astonished that a very well known sporting columnist should not only give a sympathetic hearing to the charge, but should also exhume the appalling accusations in *The Sun*, which have long since been retracted, and appeared to be an attempt by the Sheffield police to cover their own tracks.

If it was, it didn't work. In due course, the blame was laid very correctly and clearly on the ineptitude of the police, though in my view the scapegoat was the unfortunate Superintendent Duckenfield.

How easy it was to saddle that poor fellow with all the blame, even if he had been in charge of the operation and even if he had, as was alleged, lost control.

But Duckenfield had been in command for only a couple of weeks. His predecessor, who had handled the similar Liverpool-Nottingham Forest semi-final the previous year without real problems had been replaced and humiliated for what appeared to be no more than a supposed disciplinary lapse.

Whether or not he let certain things slide, certain horseplay take place, surely any sensible superior would have waited until the second semi-final was over. The previous year, there was sufficient police to block a late surge of Liverpool supporters, something which was wholly predictable in terms of their normal behaviour, and which should have been double predictable on the second occasion.

I've no wish either to demonise or sanctify Liverpool fans. To generalise about them is futile. They vary in my experience, from the salt of the earth to the scum of the earth. From the wonderfully decent characters, scousers all, who have made up the London branch of the supporters club, to the thugs who ran riot at Heysel.

Here again, police ineptitude, compounded by the superficiality of UEFA and the shocking inadequacy of the Belgian football authorities, were centrally important factors.

That late rush at Sheffield would have meant nothing if the police had done their job properly. I know from eye-witnesses that the central area of those terraces was frighteningly full long before the match was due to start, while the terraces on either side still had plenty of space.

The deaths were a devastating phenomenon, which profoundly distressed me. Reaching climax and a king of catharsis a few days later when, at San Siro during the minute's silence before Milan played Real Madrid, the Milan fans in the upper tier sang, in England, You'll Never Walk Alone.

Scousers tend to a kind of paranoia at times, sensing hostility even where it does not exist, thinking the South doesn't care. My younger son, a photographer with a football background, and no links with Liverpool save through his maternal grandmother, cared enough to set up a photo auction, which realised £12,000 for the disaster fund.

I suppose the pendulum has swung. Up to Heysel, Liverpool's supporters probably had too easy a ride with the media at large; not least with their own local reporters.

Since then, the tendency has been to blame them when they don't deserve it, Clough's gratuitous, mistaken and baseless accusations being the latest example.

I shall always believe that the blame for Hillsborough lay elsewhere.

ong target

the blame for Hillsborough lay elsewhere'

Brian Clough . . . astonishing attack.

VENABLES PICKS THE WRONG FORMATION

EVENTS overtook my column last month, but did not make my observations on Terry Venables and Matt Le Tissier any less relevant.

In the event, Venables was constrained to play Le Tissier against Romania but, unforgivably, stuck him out on the right wing for most of the match, thus effectively preventing him from doing what he does for Southampton, and getting hold of the game. Meanwhile, Ian Wright *(below)*, was wasted wide on the left.

Don't tell me either of them had a fair crack.

WOMEN PICK THE WRONG SUBJECT

YOU may have noticed that I am not, thank goodness, Politically Correct. Which allows me to protect against what might be called The Monstrous Regiment of Women Football Journalists.

Recently, a broadsheet daily, published a column by one of its young ladies headed, I kid you not, New 'Cole is unearthed in Newcastle. She proceeded to write that another newspaper had 'a world exclusive', discovering a mysterious star footballer "doing great things at St James' Park". Its headline had been Glittering Coles lights up Newcastle.

That piece of sarcastic infantilism, pivoting wholly on the misuse of one consonant, headed her column. Give me strength. And her final paragraph returned to the subject.

A couple of days later, another young lady, this time in a daily tabloid, reported Wimbledon v Arsenal. "Campbell," she wrote, "silenced Highbury critics with a sensational third goal."

Yes, it was somewhat sensational. Two days previously, viewers of *Match Of The Day*, followed by readers of a clutch of Sunday reporters, were able clearly to see that Campbell had brought the ball under control with a hand before scoring.

Another broadsheet, which has an outstanding football correspondent and an excellent supporting cast, decided to pass over two of the best and most fluent football writers in the country and send a woman journalist to the World Cup.

And here's the rub. Ladies haven't played. Hence, with the rarest exceptions, while they can turn out a decent feature, their match reports are con jobs. And match reports are the litmus paper of football journalism.

No matter how well educated the women may be, how long they park themselves in football Press boxes, they never seem to come to grips with the game. The level at which you played really does not matter. Without having done so, the vital empathy is missing.

MAHOOD

● The opinions expressed are Brian Glanville's and do not necessarily reflect *WORLD SOCCER's* views. Brian Glanville welcomes comments from readers.

A to Z OF THE WORLD'S GREAT GROUNDS

By SIMON INGLIS, author of The Football Grounds of Great Britain and The Football Grounds of Europe

OLD TRAFFORD

Capacity 44,622
Opened February 19 1910
Location On the borders of Manchester and the neighbouring city of Salford (though only locals can tell the difference). Not to be confused with Old Trafford cricket ground, down the road.

● It has taken Manchester United 30 years to complete their masterplan for Old Trafford. The result? In the mid-60s when the first phase was built, with its glazed executive boxes and cantilevered roof the concept seemed as daringly modern as George Best in an E-Type. Now all four sides are complete the overall effect is completely enclosed, lighter and more colourful than before, if a touch too uniform. But the story is not over yet. This may be the Premier League's largest stadium, but with games regularly sold out and United enjoying an annual turnover of over £25million, a third tier cannot surely be far off. Meanwhile, Old Trafford manages to be both a shrine – especially with its sparce memorial to the Munich air crash and Sir Matt Busby's seat left vacant on match days – and an efficient money-making machine. Like the team before Cantona, what the stadium needs now is some *jeu d'esprit*.
WORLD SOCCER rating 9 (out of 10)

ORLANDO

Name Citrus Bowl
Capacity 72,000 (61,219 for the World Cup)
Opened 1936

● Was it perversity or cruelty which persuaded FIFA to schedule Orlando's World Cup games at midday, and then forbid the stadium authorities to keep the usual bank of temporary seats behind the north goal, thus permitting thousands of baking fans a view through the resulting gap to the cool, clear water of the Lorna Doone Lake beyond? Never mind collapsing stands, what about wilting fans? Heat and humidity apart, the Citrus Bowl was a surprisingly popular World Cup venue, with excellent sightlines and a superb setting. In fact regular MLS soccer and possibly some games in the 1996 Olympic tournament could be just the thing to lure bored British tourists from the drudgeries of nearby Disneyland, Epcot, MGM and Universal Studios . . . providing, that is, the games are played at night and they don't expect Jack Charlton to turn up.
WORLD SOCCER rating 7 (out of 10)

OLYMPIASTADIA, MUNICH

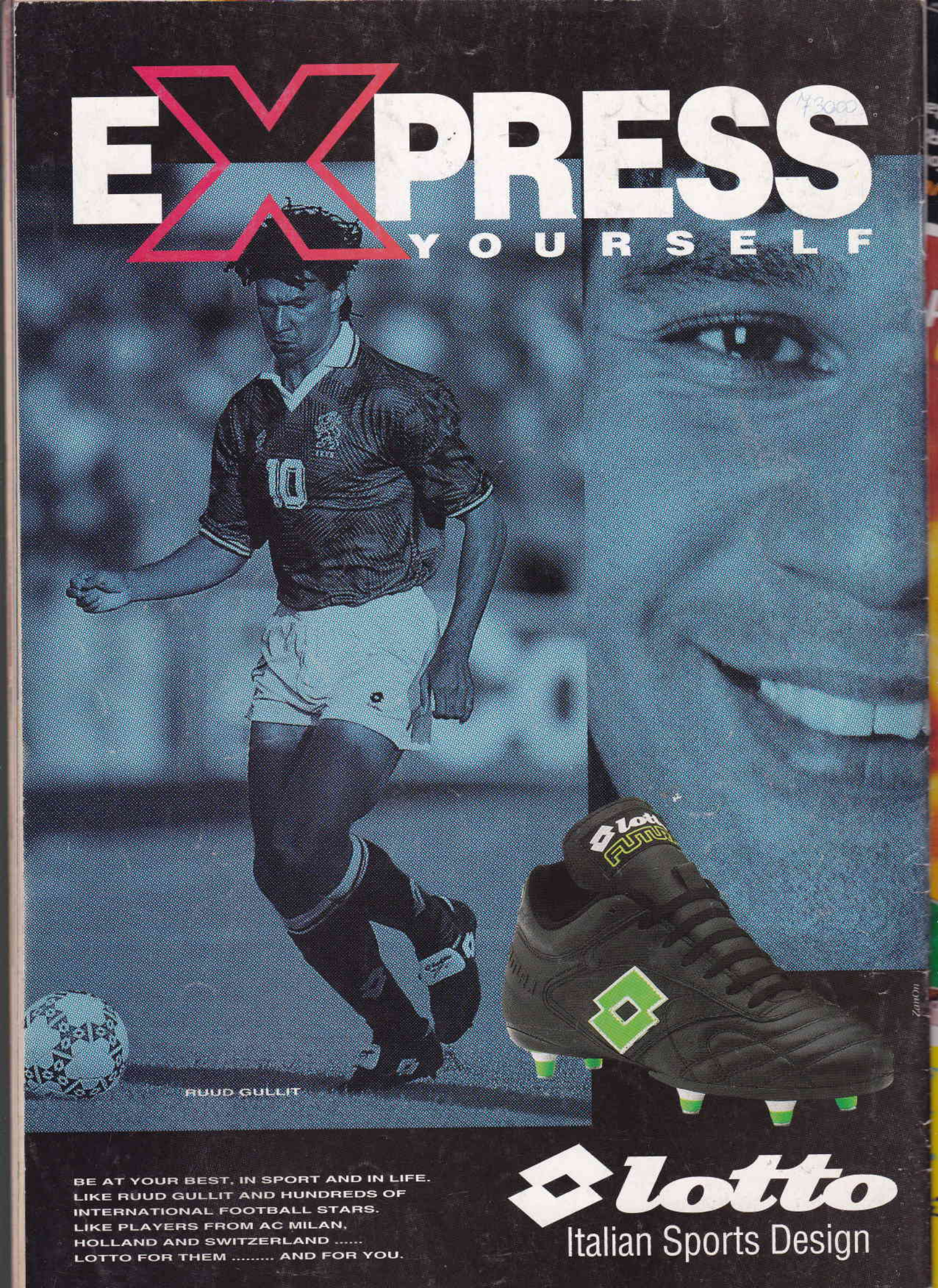
Capacity 69,267 (56,555 seats)
Opened May 26 1972, West Germany v. USSR
Location In the vast Olympiapark, north-west of the centre, on either U-Bahn lines 3 or 8, or by S-Bahn S8. Go early for a much-needed overview from the Olympia Tower.

● With its tented roofs, steel poles and cables, this is probably Europe's most instantly recognisable stadium. More people visit every year, just to have a look or use the Olympiapark's sports and leisure facilities, than attend games at several Bundesliga clubs all season. Bayern also consistently attract the highest average crowds in the Bundesliga (48,878 last season). This season they will be joined for at least four games by newly-promoted TSV 1860 Munchen, who played here in the early 70s until dropping out of the limelight. The Lions of 1860 will rediscover that this is really a summer stadium – as in the 1972 Olympics, the 1974 World Cup, 1988 European Championships and two European Cup finals (1979 and 1993). Sitting on the uncovered side on a wet mid-winter evening the unique roof structures don't quite have the same aesthetic appeal. We should be glad this stadium exists, but glad we don't have to go there very often.
WORLD SOCCER rating 8 (out of 10)

OLYMPIC STADIUM, ATHENS

Name OAKA 'Spiros Louis' (named after the Olympic marathon winner in 1896)
Capacity 74,160 all-seated
Opened September 1982, Olympiakos v Oesters Vaxjo

● Apart from the national team, Panathinaikos are now the main regulars here, Olympiakos having moved back to the old Karaiskakis Stadium in Piraeus partly because their hooligan element caused too much damage. Shame on them – this is a classic modern stadium, with massive floodlight masts precariously angled above the two tier bowl and, for the technically-minded, one of the best circulation systems around. Certainly good enough for the 1994 European Cup Final, yet not so for the International Olympic Committee. Here, in the city where the modern Olympics began in 1896, there exists a ready-made Olympic village with stadium, velodrome, swimming pool, sports halls, training pitches, parking for 9,000 cars and its own metro station. And where are the 1996 Centenary Olympics? In Atlanta, HQ of Coca-Cola, where they plan to add temporary seats around a temporary track in order the stage the main events. Who said things go better with Coke?
WORLD SOCCER rating 8 (out of 10)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